

## 'No war in Iraq!'

Tens of thousands – including LGBTs – protest Bush war plan at SF rally.

page 30

## Let the Gay Games begin!

Our sports columnist takes a look back at the event's history.

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## 'Frida' unfurled

Salma Hayek plays the bisexual Mexican artist.

see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

## Gay pioneer Harry Hay dies at 90

by Joe Dignan

When gay rights pioneer Harry Hay "passed away quietly in his sleep" as his longtime friend

and caregiver Joey Cain said, it was one of the few things he did quietly.

Mr. Hay died in the early morning hours last Thursday, October 24 at his home in San Francisco. He was 90.

When Mr. Hay, outspoken advocate for gay rights, founder of America's first gay rights organization, the Mattachine Society, and the founder of the Radical Faeries got angry, Cain said, he got angry about only a few things. "Sometimes when he couldn't find an earing he wanted," and about assimilationists. Assimilationists – those who believe that gay people should fit in with the rest of society – "really set him off," Cain recalled.

"Gay people bring a way of looking at things that straight people don't necessarily see," Mr. Hay told the Bay Area Reporter in an interview earlier this year. "We need to show the best of what we bring and let everyone see it for what it is – beautiful."

According to Will Roscoe, the editor of some of Mr. Hay's collected writings, Mr. Hay went from describing gays as a "separate people" to, later

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Harry Hay in 1999

Cynthia Laird



## HALLOWEEN ON PARADE

Twelve organizers had hoped for a better turnout at Saturday's "March of Light" that started in Dolores Park and continued to the Castro. These costumed angels were one of approximately three contingents in the event. Tomorrow is the unofficial, unofficial Halloween party in the Castro.

Jane Philomen O'Leary

## Gay Games hosts cobble together last-minute money fix

by Matthew S. Bajko

The race to find enough cash to cover the pre-event costs for Gay Games VI has been a nail-biter rivaling any of the athletic action set to take place next week.

More like a tug-of-war competition than a marathon, the money game has played out with as much intensity and last-minute turnarounds as the recently completed seven-game World Series.

While the organizers for the Sydney Games announced this week that they had indeed

prevailed, securing financial backing from a multitude of lenders, their victory appeared nearly impossible during the last three weeks.

The first sign of trouble came in early October, when the co-chairs of the Games revealed they needed \$1.5 million (Australian dollars) in order to fund the preparations for the Games. Banking on revenue from early ticket purchases, the host committee realized they had made a fumble with that assumption.

Ticketek, the company selling tickets to the Games, told the Sydney hosts it would not release the money. Ticketek was holding the cash in case the Games were canceled and it had to reimburse ticket-buyers.

Scrambling to find a backer for a bank loan, organizers worked out a deal with community leaders and formed a nine-member

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## Araujo memorial draws hundreds

by Cynthia Laird

The funeral for murdered transgender teenager Eddie "Gwen" Araujo was open to the public last Friday, October 25, and hundreds of mourners turned out to pay their respects at St. Edward's Catholic Church in Newark.

After the service, Araujo's mother, Sylvia Guerrero, released 17 butterflies, one for each year of Araujo's brief life.

"Angels don't have a gender and he's my angel now. I know that he's safe somewhere where no one can hurt him," Guerrero told the crowd outside the church.

Hundreds of mourners who could not get into the packed church held their own vigil in an outside courtyard. Newark high school students who will perform the play *The Laramie Project* – about murdered Wyoming gay college student Matthew Shepard – wore their angel costumes to help block the family from any anti-transgender protests; none occurred. They joined in singing "Amazing Grace" and held a moment of silence.

Several transgender activists thanked the crowd for its support, and reminded people that transgender murders occur about once a month in the country.

"Please remember this isn't an isolated case," said Gwen Smith, a longtime transgender activist and columnist for the Bay Area Reporter.

Araujo's body was found two weeks after the alleged October 3 murder in a shallow grave in the Sierra foothills. Three men have been arrested in the case; one has pleaded not guilty while the two others have not yet entered pleas. All three – Michael Magidson, 22, of Fremont; and Jaron Chase Nabors, 19, and Jose Merel, 24, both of Newark – face

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## Bay Area Reporter election endorsements

### STATE OFFICERS

**Governor**  
Gray Davis  
**Lt. Governor**  
Cruz Bustamante  
**Secretary of State**  
Kevin Shelley  
**Attorney General**  
Bill Lockyer  
**Controller**  
Steve Westly  
**Treasurer**  
Phil Angelides  
**Insurance Commissioner**  
John Garamendi  
**Superintendent of Public Instruction**  
Jack O'Connell  
**1st District Board of Equalization**  
Carole Migden

### JUDICIAL

**YES** on all three state Supreme Court Justices  
**YES** on all Court of Appeal Justices in Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

### STATE SENATE

**District 8** Jackie Speier

### STATE ASSEMBLY

**District 12** No endorsement  
**District 13** Mark Leno  
**District 6** Joe Nation  
**District 14** Loni Hancock  
**District 15** Donna Gerber  
**District 16** Wilma Chan  
**District 27** John Laird

### CONGRESS

**District 8** Nancy Pelosi  
**District 1** Mike Thompson  
**District 6** Lynn Woolsey  
**District 7** George Miller  
**District 9** Barbara Lee  
**District 10** Ellen Tauscher  
**District 12** Tom Lantos  
**District 13** Pete Stark  
**District 14** Anna Eshoo  
**District 15** Mike Honda  
**District 16** Zoe Lofgren

### SF SUPERVISOR

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**District 4** Fiona Ma  
**District 6** Chris Daly  
**District 8** Tom Radulovich  
**District 10** Sophie Maxwell

### SF BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD

Lawrence Wong, Anita Greer, Johnnie L. Carter Jr.

### JUDGES – SF SUPERIOR COURT

**Court Office 10**  
Gail Dekreon

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**Assessor/Recorder**  
Doris Ward

### BART BOARD

**District 8** James Fang

### BERKELEY MAYOR

Tom Bates

### BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL

**District 7** Kriss Worthington

### SAN FRANCISCO PROPOSITIONS

**Vote YES** on A, B, C, E, G, H, I, J, N, R, S, BB  
**Vote NO** on D, F, K, L, M, O, P, Q

### STATE PROPOSITIONS

**Vote YES** on 46, 47, 48  
**Vote NO** on 49, 50, 51, 52  
Don't forget to vote on Nov. 5!



Grieving friends of Eddie "Gwen" Araujo outside St. Edward's Church in Newark during the memorial last Friday.

Jane Philomen O'Leary

FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS



# CHP pays out \$130K to lesbian couple

by Matthew S. Bajko

The California Highway Patrol recently paid a lesbian couple in Oakland \$130,000 to settle claims of excessive force, assault, and sexual orientation discrimination brought by the women against one of its officers.

"I am thrilled that it is over," said Wendy Bauman, who with her partner Sharon Krieger filed the suit against the CHP two years ago. "They were clearly in the wrong and there needed to be some symbolic gesture I guess to resolve it for me in terms of their admission of wrongdoing."

In June 2000, Krieger and Bauman were helping their 1-year-old

daughter out of their car in downtown Oakland when a man approached them and demanded to see Bauman's license. When she asked why, he insisted she had hit his car while parallel parking. According to the couple, the alleged damage to the man's car was a smudge on the vehicle's molding.

Krieger and Bauman denied that their car had hit his car, and suggested they all call an officer, at which point the man, Samuel Morgan, disclosed that he was a plainclothes CHP officer. When Bauman reached into her pocket to show him her license, Morgan then grabbed her arm and twisted it up behind her back in a "twist-lock control hold," according to court records.

Morgan held her there for several minutes, twisting on the arm and inflicting pain while Krieger tried to call for help on her cell phone and care for their crying daughter, the couple stated in their suit. Morgan released Bauman only after an Oakland Police officer arrived and instructed him to let her go.

Bauman, an independent real estate broker, suffered a fractured wrist as a result of the attack. According to the couple, the officer's supervisor arrived, and suggested they "let bygones be bygones," but refused to consider paying for Bauman's medical bills.

San Francisco attorney David Helbraun filed suit on Krieger and Bauman's behalf in federal court in San Francisco. The case settled after almost two years of litigation short-

ly before a scheduled trial date.

In court, the California Attorney General's office defended Morgan and the CHP and argued that the officer used "reasonable force" to keep Bauman from leaving the scene of a crime, namely, an alleged misdemeanor hit-and-run. Helbraun argued there had been no accident to warrant the officer's behavior.

"There was no accident in the first place, and there was no damage to the CHP unmarked car; Ms. Bauman wasn't trying to leave, she was there with her partner and 1-year-old child and was trying to show the officer her license when he attacked her," said Helbraun. "He clearly lacked any justification for what he did, and one of our arguments was that he was motivated by hatred of lesbians."

Bauman told the *Bay Area Reporter* she is not sure if the man knew for certain that she and her partner are lesbians.

"We certainly look like lesbians. He was a very angry person who was just venting on somebody and it happened to be me unfortunately," said Bauman. "He could have been all that much more forceful because I was a lesbian, I just don't know."

The CHP had settled with the couple in May, but due to the state's budget stalemate, the agency did not pay the settlement until last week. Bauman said the money will partly pay for the legal costs and for a down payment on a new house.

"We did end up with a nice sum for ourselves," said Bauman. "It will come in handy." ▼

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## Gay press pioneers speak this Saturday

by Zak Szymanski

**B**ay Area Reporter publisher Bob Ross, lesbian activists Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, and Don Lucas of the Mattachine Society will all appear at "First Time In Print," a panel discussion sponsored by the GLBT Historical Society of Northern California on Saturday, November 2 from 1-3 p.m.

Held at the Koret Auditorium of the San Francisco Public Library, Grove and Larkin streets, the panel is an opportunity to

hear these LGBT publishing pioneers tell their stories, ask questions, and witness the first time they all have come together to talk about the gay press in its earliest days.

Lucas is the only surviving co-founder of the *Mattachine Review*, one of the first gay publications in the United States. Lyon and Martin were the original publishers of *The Ladder*, the first lesbian magazine in the United States. And Ross, who founded the *B.A.R.* in 1971, continues to produce one of the longest-running gay newspapers, which has served as a model

for LGBT publications nationwide.

The panel is presented in conjunction with the historical society's current exhibit detailing periodicals between World War II and the World Wide Web, an exhibit that focuses on how LGBT people during this 50-year period began to produce and circulate their own images and words about themselves, helping to launch a mass movement.

Saturday's panel is free, and refreshments will be provided. For more information, visit [www.glbthistory.org](http://www.glbthistory.org). ▼

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**ENDORSEMENTS**

Take This Guide To The Polls



Debra Walker, Pres.



Robert Haaland, VP



Enrique Asis, VP

**CHOOSE  
OR LOSE****An Urgent Message from Officers  
of the Harvey Milk Club**

The liveability and affordability of San Francisco is at stake in November's election. Downtown interests, big landlords, and the Republican party are pushing a conservative agenda and conservative candidates. **Don't be fooled by fake democratic organizations, big money campaigns and last minute hit pieces.**

Big Developers and Landlord groups are working hard to defeat Prop. B and A and to end rent control by passing Prop. R. Prop N is an attempt to blame policy failures on poor and

homeless people and to force the most vulnerable people out of San Francisco. Prop O offers real solutions to help homeless people. H and L are about basic fairness.

**An Independent Board of Supervisors is at stake.** If just one candidate lost to a candidate friendly to the Mayor, Brown would again have a veto-proof majority.

We urge you to vote for Sara Lipson and Whitney Leigh for more accountability to our school board and long needed reform.

## Harvey Milk

### Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender

## Democratic Club

We are also proud to be supporting a lesbian candidate for judge. Please join us in supporting Gail Dekreon.

Finally, please vote for lesbian candidate Carole Migden who is running for the State Board of Equalization. She will bring reform and vision to this office.

Our opposition votes even if we don't. Vote November 5th. Please take this guide to the polls.

**The future of our city is at stake.**

Governor.....No Position  
Lieutenant Governor.....**CRUZ BUSTAMANTE**  
Secretary of State.....**KEVIN SHELLEY**  
Controller.....**STEVE WESTLY**  
Treasurer.....**PHIL ANGELIDES**  
Attorney General.....**BILL LOCKYER**



Insurance Commission.....**JOHN GARAMENDI**  
Board of Equalization.....**CAROLE MIGDEN**  
State Senate, District 8.....**JACKIE SPEIER**  
State Assembly Dist. 12.....No Endorsement  
State Assembly Dist. 13.....**MARK LENO**  
Judge, Seat 10.....**GAIL DEKREON**

Supervisor, Dist. 2.....**Lynne Newhouse Segal**

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Supervisor, Dist. 6.....**Chris Daly**

Chris Daly reversed Republican cuts to HIV/AIDS programs and passed the strongest protections against evictions in more than a decade.



Supervisor, Dist. 8.....**Eileen Hansen**

Eileen Hansen offers leadership with three decades of determined, effective advocacy working on important issues: housing, planning and zoning; health; labor; the environment; and lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender rights.



Supervisor, Dist. 10.....**Sophie Maxwell**

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**California Propositions**

Proposition 46 Housing/Emergency Trust .....**YES**  
Proposition 47 Kindergarten/Univ. Education Bond.....**YES**  
Proposition 48 Court Consolidation .....No Position  
Proposition 49 Before & After School Programs.....**YES**  
Proposition 50 Safe Drinking Water Projects .....**YES**  
Proposition 51 Transportation. Allocation of Taxes.....No Position  
Proposition 52 Election Day Voter Registration .....**YES**

**San Francisco Propositions - Bond Measures**

**A Water Revenue Bond/Hetch Hetchy.....YES**  
The effort to save Hetch-Hetchy and make our water system safe  
**B Affordable Housing Bonds .....YES**  
Big Developers and Landlord groups are working hard to defeat Proposition B  
**C Veterans Building .....No Position**

**Charter Amendments**

**D Energy Self Sufficiency and Clean Energy.....YES**  
Proposition D would limit PG&E's control over our city's energy policy, enabling San Francisco to shut down polluting power plants. Shut down PG&E.  
**E Changes to Public Utilities Reform the PUC.....YES**  
**F Entertainment Commission Creates an Entertainment Commission.....YES**  
**G Assistance to Elections Department.....YES**  
**H Retirement for Police & Fire Personnel.....YES**  
Bring retirement benefits for our public safety officers (Firefighters and Police) up to the statewide average and it won't cost taxpayers a cent.  
**I Paid Parental Leave Paid Parental Leave for City Workers.....YES**  
**J Supervisors Salary Civil Service Commission.....YES**

**Ordinances**

**K Selection of Official Newspapers.....YES**  
Put a stop to the Independent's public notice sweetheart deal that robs our general fund annually.  
**L Real Property Transfer Tax Ordinance .....YES**  
Last year, Downtown interests sued the City and took \$30 million dollars annually from the City budget. Proposition L would recover that lost revenue through a tax on transfers of high-end houses and commercial real estate. Big commercial landlords are spending over a million dollars to defeat this measure despite the fact the City will face a huge fiscal crisis next year. We pay our fair share in taxes so should Downtown.  
**M City Economic Development Plan.....NO**

**N Slashing General Assistance Benefits.....NO**  
"Care not Cash," if an LGBT person suffers homophobic harassment, is attacked or even raped at a homeless shelter and will not go back to that same shelter, his/her general assistance benefits will be cut.

**O Exits from Homelessness Housing for GA Recipients.....YES**  
For a real solution to homelessness. Vote Yes on O

**P Public Utilities Bond Oversight Committee .....No Position**  
**Q No City Funds for Political Activity.....No Position**

**R Condo Conversions/Rent Control Repeal.....NO**  
A landlord backed condo-conversion measure that would remove rent control. Beware of phoney "lifetime lease" promises that will not stand up in court.

**S Medical Cannabis Medical Marijuana (Declaration of Policy).....YES**

**BB BART G.O. Seismic Retrofit (Multi-County Bond) A safer BART benefits everyone.....YES**

No contributions were solicited or accepted until our public endorsement process was complete.

Please Vote November 5th 2002

**ENDORSEMENTS**

Take This Guide To The Polls





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# New AIDS ad campaign hits a nerve

by Matthew S. Bajko

In the Stop AIDS Project's new AIDS advertising campaign, gone are the sexy black and white photos of two handsome men in bed about to have sex.

The multi-colored prophylactics and the upbeat "use a condom" message have been tossed aside as well.

In their place is a more in-your-face attempt to portray the unseemly side effects from both HIV and the medications HIV-positive men must take in order to survive with the virus.

One ad features a man squatting on a toilet seat, suffering from a constant bout of diarrhea. Another ad depicts a man's protruding stomach, called Crix belly. The distended stomach and abnormally located weight gain has been associated with taking protease inhibitors.

A third ad highlights how HIV-positive men are often afflicted with intolerable night sweats. And a fourth ad focuses up-close on the face of a man suffering from facial wasting.

"People need to know that despite the advances in treatments, gay men are still dying from this disease," said Les Pappas, president of San Francisco-based Better World Advertising, the agency that designed the campaign. "And the guys who aren't dying are dealing with some pretty serious health problems. It's better than before, but having HIV can still be a living hell."

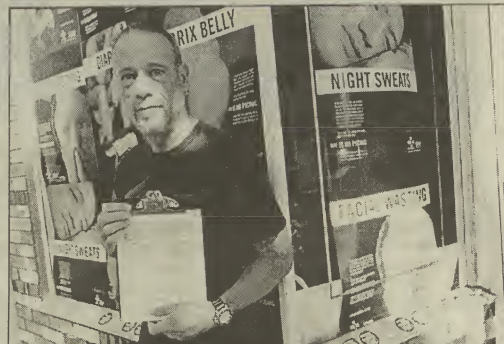
Titled "HIV is No Picnic," the stark, hard-hitting series of four ads from the Stop AIDS Project's Positive Force program is designed to counter a widely held perception among HIV-negative men that contracting HIV is no longer something to be so concerned about.

"I had an HIV-negative man tell me in the last year it is okay to have sex with me without a condom because all you have to take is a few pills and you are fine," said Keith Folger, program manager of the project's Positive Force and PLUS programs. "We have been hearing this and it frightens us. We don't want to see another generation of gay men die if we can stop it."

But the ads, which began appearing in the *Bay Area Reporter* and on Muni shelters around the city in early October, is also hitting a nerve with some HIV-positive men, who have been outraged with the campaign's more negative tone. One man has gone so far as to call the campaign "AIDS-phobic" and has begun a petition drive to convince the project to discontinue with the ads.

"Stop AIDS is running the campaign on a fear-based perspective. They are not approaching it from a public health perspective at all and this doesn't work at all in my perspective," said Michael Stanley, who at 54 has lived with HIV for 18 years. "I believe this campaign, by putting it on Muni bus shelters and toilets all over the city, it is going to result in hate crimes more and more."

Stanley, who said he was stunned when he first saw the ad in the *B.A.R.* two weeks ago, has talked to officials at the project about his concerns with the ads, and has taken to the streets in the Castro to drum up support for his petition.



AIDS survivor Michael Stanley doesn't like the new ad campaign.

"It is hurting people. People I talk to on the street are very upset about it," said Stanley, who has suffered from night sweats, facial wasting, and diarrhea so bad he said he spent many nights sleeping on his toilet. "It is making me relive all of this all over again. They have never gone negative against another group in the gay community like this before."

Despite the concerns raised from Stanley and other gay men upset with the campaign, the Stop AIDS Project said it has no plans to discontinue with the ads, which will run for 16 weeks in the *B.A.R.* and appear on the Muni shelters and public toilets during that time. The project's staff said they expected the campaign to evoke strong reactions from people in the community, which is why they launched the ads in the first place.

"We know that some people will be shocked by the 'in your face' nature of the ads," said David Evans, the project's program director. "But the HIV-positive guys who make up our Positive Force Program have been waiting for an opportunity to tell negative guys how tough it can be to live with HIV. We consider this a truth in advertising campaign."

As for the petition drive, which Stanley said has generated several hundred signatures, Evans said he is not surprised.

"I think it is an indication that the ads are certainly provocative," he said. "It was never our intention to harm or stigmatize anyone."

Each of the four ads features an HIV-positive man describing the impact a specific side effect of the HIV disease or anti-HIV medication has had on them. "Don't get me wrong, I'm glad to be alive," each says. "But HIV is no picnic." All four of the men live in San Francisco and volunteered to be part of the campaign.

"A lot of people think that the worst is over," said Geoff Gray, 52, a Positive Force participant who is featured in one of the ads. "This is nothing to be taken lightly. It is a life-threatening disease and there are very serious life consequences one has to deal with when one makes the choice to engage in high-risk behavior. It breaks my heart to meet young men who are still seroconverting."

Gray, a nursing student at San Francisco State University, has experienced facial lipoatrophy – also known as facial wasting – as a side effect of his anti-HIV medications.

"At first I thought my cheekbones looked a little better," he said. "But then it became obvious that I had that 'AIDS look.' It's

hard getting up in the morning. There it is staring at me in the mirror. I get up, I brush my teeth, and, oh yeah, I have AIDS. I can't ever forget."

Darrel Nystrom, who is 47 and has been positive since 1985, said he wanted to pose for the ad campaign so negative men could see the reality of having HIV. Seen in the Crix belly ad, Nystrom said he has had the condition for four years.

"I think it is important we represent all sides of being positive. So often people are trying to put a positive face on the ability to maintain some semblance of a normal life with the meds," said Nystrom. "But more and more people I talk to aren't aware of the devastating side effects from the meds. It is a manageable disease at the moment but certainly not one that is pleasant to live with."

For Martin Hollick, who is 39 and has been positive for 15 years, the HIV is No Picnic ad campaign is adding a necessary element to the city's efforts to control the spread of HIV.

"The message is still out there to practice safe sex, do not seroconvert, get tested, know your status, don't infect others. These messages are as important today as they were 20 years ago," said Hollick, who appears in the diarrhea ad. "They have been doing that and it hasn't had any good results in the last years. Fear works."

He said he hopes the new ads instill the same fears in gay men as the early days of the AIDS epidemic did in the 1980s.

"Let's face it, one of the ways behavior changed so drastically was the fact everyone was dying. When people were going to funeral after funeral, people changed," said Hollick. "The whole idea that barebacking has made a comeback proves we need to reinforce earlier good behavior of safe sex."

"We are not placing blame. We know more than anybody about human nature," added Hollick. "We are just trying to get that message out that it is still important to practice safe sex."

Project officials hope the new ads will also promote more discussion about HIV within the community. They said they especially want to encourage HIV-negative and HIV-positive men to discuss their status before having sex, something they contend often does not happen.

"If that began to happen with more frequency because of this campaign that would be a really important step forward in trying to stem the tide of new infections," said Evans. ▽

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*Care not Cash*

**YES on H**

*Firefighter, Police &  
Paramedic Equity*

**YES on B**  
*Affordable Housing*

**YES on BB**  
*BART Retrofit*

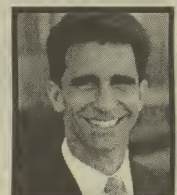
**NO on K**  
*Protect  
Affirmative Action*



**Steve Westly**  
Controller



**Carole Migden ▼**  
Board of Equalization



**Mark Leno ▼**  
Assembly, District 13



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ATTORNEY GENERAL . . . . .Bill Lockyer  
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER . . . . .John Garamendi  
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STATE SENATE District 8 . . . . .Jackie Speier

STATE ASSEMBLY District 13  
**MARK LENO\* ▼**

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**MABEL TENG\***

**CITY PROPOSITIONS**

**Prop A** Water Bonds . . . . .YES  
**Prop B** Affordable Housing Bonds . . . . .YES\*  
**Prop C** Veterans Building Bonds . . . . .YES  
**Prop D** Public Power . . . . .YES  
**Prop E** Water & Sewer Rates . . . . .YES  
**Prop F** Entertainment Commission . . . . .YES  
**Prop G** Elections Assistance . . . . .YES  
**Prop H** Police & Firefighter Retirement . . . . .YES\*  
**Prop I** Paid Parental Leave . . . . .YES  
**Prop J** Supervisors Salaries . . . . .YES  
**Prop K** Protect Affirmative Action . . . . .NO\*  
**Prop L** Real Estate Tax . . . . .YES  
**Prop N** Care Not Cash . . . . .YES\*  
**Prop P** Revenue Bond Oversight Comm. . . . .NO  
**Prop S** Medical Marijuana . . . . .YES  
**Prop BB** BART Seismic Retrofit . . . . .YES\*

**STATE PROPOSITIONS**

**Prop 46** Housing Bonds . . . . .YES  
**Prop 47** School Construction Bond . . . . .YES  
**Prop 48** Court Consolidation . . . . .YES  
**Prop 50** Water Quality Bonds . . . . .YES  
**Prop 52** Election Day Voter Registration . . . . .YES



## BAY AREA REPORTER

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## OPEN FORUM

## Care Not Cash is a first step

Last week we strongly endorsed Proposition N on this Tuesday's San Francisco ballot. The measure, known as Care Not Cash, was authored by Supervisor Gavin Newsom and put on the ballot by an overwhelming number of registered city voters who signed petitions earlier this year. As the November 5 election approaches, we feel the question is not whether Care Not Cash will be approved by voters but by how large a margin.

And it's the likelihood of a landslide victory that should concern those opposed to Proposition N, because it points to fundamental reasons the proposal was put on the ballot in the first place.

Proposition N will reduce general assistance checks to some homeless people from a high of \$320 per month to \$59 with the guarantee of in-kind city services such as food, shelter, and treatment for alcohol and drug addiction; if those services aren't available, the checks won't be reduced.

Two years ago, progressive candidates were elected to a majority of the 11 seats on the Board of Supervisors in a backlash against Mayor Willie Brown. Even though Tom Ammiano was re-elected president of the board, with a significant number of members behind him and was, at last, in a position to advance the progressive agenda, in our view, that didn't happen on a large scale. Sure, some progressive laws were passed: notable among those were the transgender health benefits for city workers, authored by Supervisor Mark Leno; and Ammiano's ordinance prohibiting discrimination on the basis of weight or height. What did take place, however, was constant bickering between many supervisors and the mayor and legislative gridlock on a number of important matters, including the issue of homelessness. Meanwhile, the streets kept getting more crowded with homeless people, many of whom—but not all—spend the days defecating and urinating on the sidewalk, blocking business and residential establishments, and strung out on drugs.

In the last two years (and, indeed, for many years), there has been virtually no leadership coming from the Board of Supervisors or the mayor's office on dealing with homelessness—and by that we mean finding the will to implement new shelter services and substance abuse treatment slots. Money continued to flow from city coffers, but most residents and people who work here have seen no tangible results. The collection of nonprofit organizations that say they help the homeless have also been missing in action, in our view.

In an effort to fill that void, Care Not

Cash was born. Every time Newsom tried to address the matter at a board meeting, he was shot down by vocal homeless people and their advocates, many of whom, as *Sacramento Bee* columnist Daniel Weintraub wrote earlier this year, "think they have a right to the cash while rejecting, if they wish, the city's offers of food and housing."

We reject that philosophy, and so should voters. Just this week, the city attempted another census of the homeless. Some activists have complained, when, in fact, knowing the accurate number of homeless people would help better prepare the city to provide services. We don't know if there are 7,000 people on the streets or 13,000, and some homeless advocates don't want you to know: they fear they will lose their funding if it's shown the homeless population is half of what they say it is. That's not advocating for the homeless, that's greed, pure and simple.

Anyone who says that Newsom and other Proposition N supporters don't care about the homeless have it wrong. Dr. Pablo Stewart, chief of psychiatric services at the respected Haight Ashbury Free Clinic, was an early supporter of Care Not Cash. In an interview with the *San Francisco Examiner*, Stewart said that the first

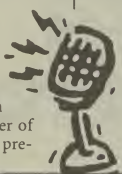
thing Proposition N will do is decrease the amount of deaths due to drug overdoses. In his view (and one with which we agree) homelessness is largely caused by substance abuse. We've heard the horror stories of people who have lost everything because of their addiction to drugs such as crack and heroin. The other leading cause of homelessness is mental illness. Years ago, under then-Governor Ronald Reagan, the state gave up its responsibility in this matter, and now the need for city-provided mental health treatment is at an all-time high.

Proponents of Care Not Cash don't say it's a panacea for solving the homeless issue and getting people off the streets. It is, however, a first step, and one that is desperately needed.

Newsom himself has said that services to the homeless should not be cut. Cash without any conditions on how it is spent is an incentive for people to live on the streets, which is part of the problem now; instead, that money should be spent on needed services.

We have an obligation to help the homeless receive those services. We don't have to hand them hundreds of dollars a month so that they can blow it on booze and drugs.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 5. And vote yes on Proposition N. ▼



## Editorial



## N &amp; R: Tried before and failed

by Tommi Avicolli Mecca

Because they are reshapes of programs that have been tried and failed, two propositions on the ballot on Tuesday—N (Care Not Cash) and R (condo-conversion measure)—should be soundly rejected.

Proposition N, Gavin Newsom's proposed cuts to general assistance for homeless individuals, has been tried in many other instances—and it failed to decrease homelessness. A Legislative Analyst Report of May 2002 found no evidence to prove that "care not cash" programs work. In fact, there is ample proof that they have not worked in places where they have been tried, including counties outside of San Francisco. In New York, a city much touted by Newsom as proof of the success of these programs, the number of homeless people has grown since 1998 when care not cash was instituted. As of March 2002 homelessness in New York was the highest it has ever been (from 21,000 in 1998 to 32,000 now). This according to the New York Department of Homeless Services, Shelter Consensus Reports. Similar results have been seen in Chicago since it cut its assistance in 1992.

Newsom says that homeless people on GA spend their money on drugs, and that

many of these people die from drug-related causes on or near the day they receive their money. But there are no statistics to back this claim. In fact, San Francisco has not done a homeless death study since 1999. What we do know is that many individuals use their GA to get rooms in SROs and to save money for apartments. Under Care Not Cash they would not be able to do this. They would lose what housing they now have. Homelessness would increase, not decrease.

Similarly, Proposition R purports to help tenants avoid eviction by buying their own apartments. But this program has also been tried—twice, in fact—and failed to do just that. It will, however, lead to a loss of rent control and more evictions, if enacted.

A Proposition R-type program in San Francisco in the late 1970s only netted 11 percent home ownership. Its failure propelled then-Mayor Dianne Feinstein (hardly a tenant advocate) to push through our current condo-conversion law which allows only 200 conversions a year (R would allow 3,400). In Santa Monica in the early 1990s, an R-type program only resulted in 8 per-

cent of tenants becoming homeowners; 80 percent were displaced.

Proposition R promises lifetime leases to protect tenants who don't buy their apartments. But a recent court ruling in the lawsuit against the McGoldrick TIC legislation found that the state's Ellis Act supersedes the protections of lifetime leases. Some of the proponents of Proposition R who tout these lifetime leases were plaintiffs in that lawsuit. So, on the one hand, they're telling us we'll be protected; on the other hand, they're suing to strike down these very same protections.

What's certain is these lifetime leases will be proven useless. And left without rent control when their units are sold as condos, tenants will lose their homes.

Propositions N and R are far too risky. We need real solutions for homelessness and real opportunities for home ownership. We don't need programs that are proven not to work. Vote no on N and R. ▼

The Poor People's March Against N & R takes place Saturday November 2, at noon, at 24th and Mission streets.



## LETTERS

## Harry Hay recalled

One of my fondest memories of Harry was dancing with him at some Faerie party in the early '90s - he was decked out in a lovely petticoat of camouflage and rainbow materials, a lot of beads, and not much else.

Harry would have been 80 then - full of joy and humor, blessed with a bright, cute 20-year-old boyfriend, Mark, who was my friend and occasional housecleaner. I didn't know Harry all that well, but was always moved by the devotion and admiration he earned from his young lover.

Harry will be sorely missed

Edward Goehring  
San Francisco

## Offended by pronoun use

Gwen Araujo was not ambiguous as to who she was. She was a transgender woman. Why then did you give her a split personality in your coverage by using the pronoun s/he? As a transgender woman I take offense. One need not have an operation to identify as either a transman or transwoman. It is obvious from the life history of Gwen that she identified as female despite her biological male status. There are men and women who dress in the attire of the opposite sex but do not identify as that gender. Please show some respect and help to educate your readers so they do not misidentify people simply because of their choice of dress. Let's get rid of stereotypes and let people self-identify. Trans people know who they are and good reporter should as well.

Denise D'Anne  
San Francisco

## Pleased that Newsom supports Dufty

I was pleased to see that the author of Care Not Cash, Supervisor Gavin Newsom, has endorsed Bevan Dufty for supervisor in District 8. Voting for Care Not Cash, however, is just a first step. For this proposal to have any chance of succeeding, Supervisor Newsom will need an ally like Dufty on the Board of Supervisors. Eileen Hansen opposes Care Not Cash and is tied to Supervisors Tom Ammiano and Chris Daly. Tom Radulovich also opposes the ballot measure and is supported by Supervisors Matt Gonzales and Aaron Peskin. For those in District 8 who don't want this important initiative to become another dream deferred, I encourage a vote for Bevan Dufty on November 5.

Greg Bronstein  
San Francisco

## Too Milk for Alice, too Alice for Milk?

The three main democratic clubs endorsing in the District 8 supervisor race are the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club, the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, and the Noe Valley Democratic Club. I am a member of all three. Generally, Alice is known to be a little more conservative, while Milk tends to tilt to the left. In my opinion, the politics of the NVDC fall right in the middle. Both Alice and Milk are made up of members from throughout the city. The Noe Valley Democratic Club is the only one of these clubs in which the members must be a District 8 voter to be a member of the club. The NVDC is truly a neighborhood club. Our endorsement is a true representation of District 8 voters.

This year, the Noe Valley Democratic Club has endorsed Tom Radulovich for District 8 supervisor. As a group, we feel Tom will best represent the interests of Noe Valley and District 8. As the only candidate with elective office experience, we feel Tom is the best qualified for the seat on the Board of Supervisors. Tom has a history of independent and progressive leadership while dealing with issues important to District 8. For example, Tom co-authored the report to the Board of Supervisors recommending the Octavia Boulevard alternative to the earthquake-damaged Central Freeway. Tom is also a founding member of the San Francisco Housing Action Coalition. Through the coalition, Tom worked with outgoing Supervisor Mark Leno on housing legislation important to District 8 voters. Tom also helped write the 1999 Muni reform measure, which helped turn Muni around and earned him the endorsement of Rescue Muni. Finally, as a BART director, Tom has effectively represented 350,000 San Franciscans (including those in District 8) for six years. Tom led the community design and renovation projects at the 16th Street, 24th Street, and Glen Park BART stations.

The Noe Valley Democratic Club prides itself on being an independent, progressive Democratic club. We feel we have endorsed a candidate who best represents the characteristics of the NVDC. We support (and hope you will too) an independent, progressive Democrat for District 8 supervisor: Tom Radulovich.

Tom Pasco  
San Francisco

## Hansen a principled candidate

Many people are characterizing the District 8 supervisor election as a battle between renters and first-time home buyers, or between downtown business and social services. I'm a gay man who lives in the Castro and who someday wants to own my own home. I'm supporting Eileen Hansen because she has the experience and qualifications to make decisions that bring balance to these sometimes competing interests in the city. Her courageous opposition to the horribly misleading Propositions N and R are accompanied by a comprehensive housing policy, including solutions for the homeless and affordable housing. I'm grateful to have such a principled candidate to vote for on November 5. Thanks, Eileen.

Warren Longmire  
San Francisco

## Radulovich in Dist. 8

I commend you for your endorsement of Tom Radulovich for District 8 supervisor. Tom is one of the most effective and dedicated public officials I encountered in more than two decades in public service in the Bay Area. As principal planner for BART, I have worked with Tom and community partners for the last six years to figure out how to make BART stations safer, more accessible, and better connected to Muni and the neighborhoods around them.

Tom led community design studies at the 16th and 24th Street BART stations. Tom secured the \$7.2 million needed to build the community plan for the plazas at 16th and Mission Street. Tom worked with Muni to reroute the 33 Stanyan to stop at the 16th Street BART plaza, and better connect Castro and 18th Street corridor with BART. At Glen Park, Tom put together a partnership of BART, the SF Public Library, and the city to secure a grant from Caltrans for a community design plan for Glen Park. Tom is a fighter for improved access to BART for pedestrians, bicycles, and people with disabilities. He also helped improve customer service at BART. Tom not only listens to his constituents, he makes sure problems are fixed. Herb Caen would have been proud of how quickly Tom eliminated the problem of pigeon poop on the escalators at Glen Park after BART's engineers installed new lighting fixtures that also provided warm roosts for pigeons.

Tom's commitment to thoughtful planning and community building has made BART a national leader in smart growth and the creation of transit villages. He was instrumental in the completion of BART's first strategic plan, as well as a 30-year capital improvement plan.

Tom has been an effective consensus builder among the nine BART directors, many of whom come from the suburbs and have little interest in San Francisco. Tom initiated expanded domestic partner benefits for BART employees and is working tirelessly to improve labor relations.

I believe that Tom Radulovich is a natural leader, with vision, integrity, and compassion for all living things. As a landscape designer and planner by training, Tom has a deep understanding of ecology and sustainability, balanced by respect for spontaneity and creativity.

BART will not be the same without Tom, but it will be a better place because of Tom's effective leadership while on the board. I know that Tom's talents are now needed on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Tom will be an independent and effective voice for District 8.

Rube Warren  
San Francisco

## Dufty's focused on Dist. 8

In last week's *Bay Area Reporter* ["District 8 race pivotal for Board of Supervisors," October 24], Eileen Hansen was quoted as saying, "Bevan is focused on individual services. His focus is one on one. The political downside is people get too focused on particular problems of the district and do not see where the city is going. As supervisor, you have to be concerned about the entire city."

Hansen's absolutely right. Bevan is very much focused on District 8, and he is committed to working with residents, community leaders and merchants, collectively and one on one, to make sure their concerns are heard and addressed. He did that as director of neighborhood services and he'll do that if elected supervisor.

Bevan also understands, however, that the frustrations and aspirations of District 8 residents often reflect what people are feeling throughout San Francisco. His broad experience and knowledge of this city and its services can't be matched by anyone else running for supervisor. I'm glad that I'll have the chance to vote for someone who doesn't mind taking on problems that might seem a nuisance to others. We need Bevan Dufty on the Board of Supervisors, for our neighborhood and for our city.

Jim Flanagan  
San Francisco

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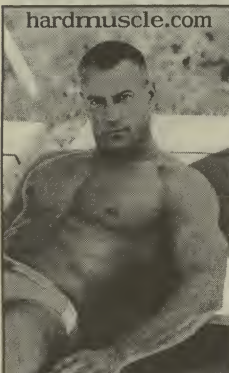
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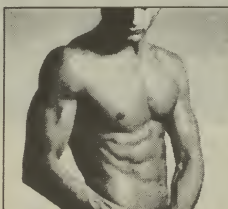
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### Supports Daly in District 6

In the race for District 6 supervisor, several candidates — Michael Sweet, Arthur Jackson, Garrett Jenkins, and Burke Strunsky, in my opinion — have distinguished themselves as a cut above the rest by their dedication to their own neighborhoods and constituencies. But in a district that encompasses the Tenderloin, North Mission, and the Sixth Street corridor, none of them carry the depth of understanding of this district that Chris Daly has demonstrated. I thank the B.A.R. for endorsing him.

The small businesses around Folsom and Dore Alley owe Daly a debt of gratitude for his unrelenting support as we wrested a 12-point settlement agreement out of the developer of the large affordable housing project to be built in their midst. Daly and his staff kept continuous pressure on the developer. It was his decision to hold up the project's funding, resulting in howls of protest from the entire nonprofit housing lobby, and his promise to stand with us that finally led to productive negotiations. Daly risked losing his core supporters by defending those businesses.

I was disgusted to read a letter from the leader of the so-called District Six Democrats last week claiming that Daly has no support from within his own district. Daly enjoys broad support.

This district has a disproportionate concentration of the poor. Nearly 90 percent are renters. South of Market provides shelter for much of the homeless population and houses many of the city's social service agencies. During public comment at a recent board meeting, as recalled by District 2 candidate H. Brown, while other supervisors talked with aides or stretched their legs, Daly sat and listened to a mother with child at her side, telling of how she faced eviction the following day. When she was finished speaking, he motioned her over and put his staff to work making emergency arrangements. H. Brown later observed that Daly treats poor people the same way Willie Brown treats corporations. Like royalty. That's why I support the reelection of Chris Daly.

Jim Meko  
San Francisco

### The most cynical view of Prop. R

Only in San Francisco could the creation of affordable home ownership opportunities for tenants be derogated as a pernicious attack on rent control. It seems as if some in the city care more about the apartments than about the people that live in them. As a former tenant who purchased his own apartment several years back — before Supervisors Daly, Ammiano and Gonzalez (all of whom own their own homes, by the way) decided to "serve" their respective constituencies by trying to make such purchases illegal — I believe that Proposition R can only be great for San Francisco.

Proposition R will reduce Ellis Act evictions because it gives tenants lifelong eviction protections in buildings where not all tenants choose to buy their individual apartments. The purchasing tenants will benefit from Proposition R by getting their units at below market prices and then by building equity in their own homes rather than dumping cash into their landlords' pockets in perpetuity.

Perhaps those who actually profit from the current mess, and therefore oppose Proposition R (including the eviction attorneys who work for the Tenants Union and are mostly home owners themselves) will have to see their incomes fall as a result of fewer evictions and more broad-based and democratic home ownership. That would be just retribution for their hypocrisy, and it would be hard to call it a bad outcome.

Joseph Creitz  
San Francisco

### Yes on Prop. R

As a long-term San Francisco tenant, I will be voting yes on Proposition R. The letter by Vincent Pietromartire regarding Proposition R contained several misleading claims (*Mailstrom*, October 17).

Under Proposition R, tenants buy relatively inexpensive rental property, not expensive market rate condos. The condo conversion is contingent upon tenants buying their units — despite what the legions of poverty pimping (and home owning) Tenants Union lawyers claim. For actual sales figures in your neighborhood, consult [www.sftenants.org](http://www.sftenants.org). Landlords are selling property to other landlords for an average of less than \$200,000 per unit today. Why can wealthy landlords buy these apartments, but not the individual tenants?

Mr. Pietromartire is confused on the issue of lifetime leases as well. No tenant has ever been Ellis Act evicted while under the term of his or her lease. We become vulnerable when our lease is up and we are under a month-to-month lease. I am currently vulnerable to such an eviction, but under Proposition R, if my neighbor buys her apartment I will be given lifetime eviction protections as well as the same rent increase protections as allowable under rent control —

these cannot be revoked even if the city's rent control ordinance were modified. These protections are precisely why Roberta Achtenberg and Jeff Sheehy are supporting Proposition R.

The bigger question is why is the Tenants Union supporting a system that keeps ownership in the hands of so very few? Could it be that they have become profiteers off the housing crisis?

Guy Burdick  
San Francisco

### No on Prop. R

I will not speculate as to your motives for backing "Condominium Conversion with Certain Conditions" (Proposition R) but your endorsement demonstrates an ignorance of Proposition R and its subjugation to current statutes of state law. Please consider the state of California has already declared no new condominium is subject to any local rent increase ordinances. First, Proposition R allows landlords to simply change the classification of their apartments into condominiums through the state's subdivision laws, which will void any and all local tenant representation Proposition R falsely promises. Next, the tenant's old apartment's rent increase protections, now a new condo, will become null and void thereby allowing the landlord to raise the rent to the ceiling and evict if you don't pay. Lastly, with no more rent control, the newly poor or displaced tenant won't have a spare nickel to spend on any of your advertisers because they will no longer have enough money or means to live in San Francisco, the most expensive city to live in America. Shame on you.

Mike Brady  
San Francisco

### Hansen's no friend of aspiring home owners

Eileen Hansen would like you to be a permanent renter in San Francisco. If she's elected to the Board of Supervisors, don't expect your dream of home ownership helped by anything she's proposed or is likely to do. Hansen consistently opposes home ownership opportunities and tries constantly to create a wedge between those who want to buy and those who rent.

We need a supervisor who works to provide a balanced approach to the housing situation in San Francisco. Bevan Duffy is that person. Having been a renter and a homeowner, he understands the frustrations on both sides. While Eileen seeks to divide, Bevan Duffy wants to be a supervisor for all. He supports rent control, and he also supports opportunities for renters to become home owners. I hope a majority will join me in rejecting the politics of division and vote for Bevan Duffy on November 5.

Riley Morgan  
San Francisco

### Hansen's limited vision for District 8

Eileen Hansen's "vision" for District 8 overlooks a very real problem, one that, if left unaddressed, will result in the decline of our neighborhoods: homelessness. For all of Eileen's talk about the "continuum of care," she and many of her supporters want to overlook the reality that many residents of District 8 are tired of the status quo and are backing Care Not Cash because it represents significant change.

Eileen and her supporters blame the problem on the mayor. Fair enough. Then it's also fair to ask what has her mentor, Tom Ammiano, the president of the Board of Supervisors, done on the issue? His last-minute ballot proposition, which Eileen strongly supports, is too little too late, coming about only after Supervisor Gavin Newsom offered his Care Not Cash initiative.

Still, this campaign isn't about who's to blame; it's about who's going to fix the problem. Bevan Duffy supports Care Not Cash. Eileen Hansen and Tom Radulovich do not. It's as basic as that. Bevan understands that this measure is an important first step in restoring sanity to our city's homeless programs and policies. If you want a supervisor who's going to work with Gavin Newsom and others to rebuild the public's faith in local government's ability to manage this and other important issues facing San Francisco, then Bevan Duffy's our best hope.

Mark Kelleher  
San Francisco

### Salutation from Sophie

Tom Radulovich is the type of leader that I want to work with to solve San Francisco's problems. He will bring his independent and creative style of leadership to the Board of Supervisors.

I have worked with Tom and I found his style to be open and thoughtful. Tom is a real problem-solver. He has done that at BART and he will do that at City Hall. I hope others will join me in supporting this excellent candidate for District 8 supervisor.

Sophie Maxwell, Member  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors



## LETTERS

## Supports Prop. N

Reading the current issue's letters, it was easy for me to disregard the letter from Tommi Avicoli Mecca and his cohorts, simply because I noticed his name was first in the lineup and yet another example of him enjoying the satisfaction of seeing his name in print. Then, I read the next letter by David Raffield and decided I wanted to comment on what he wrote.

Mr. Raffield starts by saying, "San Francisco is a mecca for snobbish, cliquish gays who are involved in the drug scene, have money, and/or good looks." What a helluva an opening! Unfortunately, Mr. Raffield goes on a tirade after that by saying, "...many snobbish, conservative, rich gays in the Castro and other neighborhoods are supporting Supervisor Gavin Newsom's anti-homeless Proposition N, Care Not Cash."

I am not involved in the drug scene, I do own a home, have saved from years of hard work, but do not consider myself "rich," and I voted against Frank Jordan — both times. I support Gavin Newsom's initiative because I am one of those people fed up with the current sad state of affairs in this town and particularly disgusted with Tom Ammiano's last-ditch effort to grandstand by submitting his own initiative without going through the honorable steps to put it before the voters by getting signatures to support his plea.

Also, Mr. Raffield goes on to write that he is supporting Tom Ammiano for mayor. For me, more than anything else, I want a mayor in whom I feel confidence, who I can mention in a conversation with friends in other parts of the country with pride, and who I know can be depended upon to work hard every day for me and other taxpayers. The thought of Tom Ammiano representing San Francisco makes me want to puke! I do not want to be the receiver of unending jokes about the silliness of our mayor. Isn't eight years of Mayor "Silly" Brown enough?

Mike Hughes  
San Francisco

## No on N

In reading Supervisor Gavin Newsom's guest opinion on Proposition N [*"Proposition N: Real care, not inadequate cash,"* October 17] I am struck by his concern and honest attempt to help our homeless, but also by his misconceptions. In looking at Proposition N, it never mentions these facts:

- Studies indicate that 60 percent of homeless people do not have substance abuse issues. This proposition is based on false stereotypes that all homeless people are alcoholics and drug abusers.

- Proposition N only addresses 18 percent of the homeless population.

- Many of the city workfare (GA) recipients with addiction issues want help but cannot get it because everyday in San Francisco over 1,000 people are waiting for treatment.

- Most recipients use their money to rent SRO rooms for part of the month, to make phone calls, and to buy basic hygiene products.

- GA recipients are required to work 32 hours a month and are "paid" \$10 an hour for their \$320 stipend.

- Proposition N would leave 2,700 homeless GA recipients with only "up to" \$59 monthly and with no other guarantee of support, not even vouchers.

- Housing for Proposition N includes two-inch floor mats in crowded shelters. More shelters will be created.

This measure plays on the paranoia of people who want a solution. The solution to helping our homeless is found in the creation of jobs, housing, increased mental health, and drug treatment funding.

Proposition N is a means of punishment to those who are homeless and in essence since these individuals clean our streets and buses, we are laying them off.

Father Christian River Sims  
San Francisco

## Supports Hetch Hetchy bond

San Francisco is fortunate to own its water system. The city does not pay for water or the electricity it gets from this amazing network. If we vote no on Proposition A and do not contribute our 30 percent toward the rebuild of what has become a regional water system, our regional customers will rise up and take away the system. And we will be powerless to stop them because we will have proven ourselves incapable of supporting and managing this tremendous asset.

If that happens — the city will have to pay for all the power and water it now gets for free: city parks, Laguna Honda Hospital, schools, community centers, etc. And who will then foot the bill? Taxpayers.

Also, let's not forget the necessary work that needs to be done on our system because of aging facilities and seismic risk. The system crosses or is adjacent to three active earthquake faults, and a significant quake could knock out water in San Francisco for 60 days or longer. Again, residents and taxpayers would bear the brunt of a preventable catastrophe.

The fact is that the local real estate industry, a few

of the bigger hotels, and especially the city's largest residential landlords are paying for the No on A campaign. The Tenants Union and Sierra Club have joined forces with landlords. Why? One can only conclude that neither wants to pay their fair share. They should all be ashamed for putting the rest of us at risk and costing taxpayers much more money in the long run.

Vote yes on A. Save our water system and keep our great deal.

Ellen Callaway  
San Francisco

## Daly's distortions

At a League of Women Voters forum for District 6 supervisor on October 24, incumbent Supervisor Chris Daly made the claim that he was responsible for "thousands of new affordable housing units." Daly as supervisor has not been responsible for one single affordable housing unit. Period.

The 5,000-plus affordable housing units put on the market since 1996 are the result of the joint efforts of the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Affordable Housing Fund, and the Redevelopment Agency working in tandem with groups like the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Council, Mercy Housing, and Glide Memorial.

Another of Daly's distortions is the claim in his brochures that he alone is responsible for restoring \$6 million in HIV/AIDS funding to the Department of Public Health. That, too, was a collaborative effort that included his fellow supervisors, Health Director Mitch Katz, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, and many others.

We need someone to represent District 6 who can tell the truth, and someone who plays well with others. Daly fails on both.

Helen Myers  
San Francisco

## Why LGBTs should support Sweet

It is not surprising that Mark Dunlop and many other so-called progressives from outside District 6 are stumping for Chris Daly [*"Why LGBTs should support Daly,"* Guest Opinion, October 10]. As a gay man I applaud any attempts to help the LGBT community. As a resident of District 6, however, I believe this is not helpful. It is political malpractice for residents of other districts to imply that they are speaking on behalf of the LGBT population in some of the most disadvantaged areas of San Francisco; the Tenderloin, South of Market, and North Mission. The purpose of district elections was to give the neighborhoods a voice, not to be drowned out by outsiders. Mark Dunlop is a resident of District 8 and should have said so.

Michael Sweet is the leading challenger to incumbent Daly by 5-7 percentage points according to a poll by David Binder. The support for Michael Sweet is coming from the residents throughout our community. He is the only candidate other than Daly to qualify for city funding, raising \$59,583 as of October 1. Sweet has benefited from small contributions throughout the district, from residents and businesses that are very concerned about their safety and future. He has a committed group of unpaid volunteers, a rainbow coalition representing the entire racial, socioeconomic, LGBT, and heterosexual spectrum.

I know Sweet personally. He is a straight guy who "gets it." He has supported domestic partners legislation and opposed the Knight initiative, which attacked the LGBT community. He has volunteered on the AIDS Ride and numerous other LGBT causes and was one of the few candidates who marched in the Pride Parade.

Daly has been criticized for not representing the district. His take on the criticism, "It's true — I don't think Jesus could represent this district." Maybe or maybe not, but we are electing a supervisor, not a Messiah, to legislate. In the entire two years as supervisor, Daly has had one of the worst records on the board. Out of 41 ordinances introduced, only 15 passed. A 36 percent success rate is not good enough. Daly also boasted in a recent flyer that he has "delivered" for our district, securing \$2 million for senior programs and \$6 million for district programs. As vice chair of the Rincon Point/South Beach Citizen's Advisory Committee, Sweet's volunteer efforts helped secure \$12 million funding for neighborhood improvements.

I agree with Mark Dunlop that this race is not a "moderate versus progressive issue but more of a leadership versus lack of leadership issue." But it is also about effectiveness. Chris Daly by his own admission lacks the education and professional skills to represent the entire district and has been very divisive. As a practicing attorney, native San Franciscan, community activist, and a very decent guy, Michael Sweet has the skills, vision, and strength to build bridges and to focus on better opportunities for jobs, education, and housing for everyone in District 6.

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# What's a gay Republican to do?

by Dale Carpenter

Every time a big election comes around, conscientious gay Republicans face a quandary: for whom do we vote? Sometimes the choices are easy. New York Governor George Pataki, for example, is both a Republican and an effective friend of gays. But all too often we arrive at the polling place with very difficult choices – and then get labeled “self-hating” when we don’t make the choices gay Democrats make.

Let’s eliminate one flawed way of looking at the problem. Voting is not simply tallying the candidates’ stated positions on gay issues and voting for the “better” of the two, based on those stated positions alone.

First, many gay Republicans disagree with gay Democrats on what constitutes an appropriately pro-gay position. For example, many gay Republicans oppose hate crimes laws on the grounds that such laws won’t reduce anti-gay crime or that they transgress other important principles. So for a gay Republican a given candidate’s support for a hate crimes law protecting gays does not automatically register as a point in his favor.

Second, even assuming we agree on what are desirable public policies affecting gays, not all candidates are equally situated to see those policy preferences implemented. A Democratic candidate who’s more desirable on paper on gay issues may simply be less effective as a legislator because he doesn’t work well with colleagues or must operate within a Republican-dominated legislature. Or he may just be untrustworthy, having burned us before, so that his support on paper is meaningless in practice.

Third, as politically progressive gays tirelessly remind us, “gay” issues are not the only issues that matter. Good citizens must be concerned about other things too, like national defense and the economy. A candidate may be terrific on gay issues but terrible on just about everything else important to a responsible voter. Voting is a matter of balancing candidates’ overall pluses against their overall minuses.

Or there may be one non-gay issue of paramount importance that outweighs the candidate’s pro-gay positions. For example, since I believe that safeguarding the security of the U.S. against external threats is the first duty of all elected federal officials,

and since I believe that that security depends on the credible threat or use of force to defang Saddam Hussein (an aggressive, megalomaniacal dictator in a region of supreme strategic importance who’s bent on obtaining nuclear weapons), I would have a very hard time voting for any congressional candidate who opposed giving President Bush the authority to use that force, no matter how many gay Pride proclamations the candidate is willing to sign. I could be wrong about some part of this analysis, but does that make me a bad gay person?

So it’s defensible for a gay Republican to vote for a Republican candidate who isn’t as good as his Democratic opponent on gay issues on the grounds that the Republican is better on national defense, taxes, free trade, and so on. The candidates’ relative scores on gay issues should not always, by itself, determine our votes.

But there are circumstances in which the candidates’ stands on gay issues should weigh more heavily, and perhaps be decisive,

for a gay Republican.

First, there are some public policy positions that strike so fundamentally at the core of gays’ full citizenship that no politician advocating them should get our votes, even if she wants drastic cuts in the capital gains tax. I am thinking specifically of sodomy laws, which deny our basic dignity and humanity by criminalizing our very love and are a foundation for many other forms of state-sponsored discrimination against us.

Second, even for a gay Republican voter, gay issues should be given more weight than other issues where they have an unusually high profile in a race so that the election becomes in part a referendum on gay equality.

The California governor’s race is an example of this. The Republican candidate, Bill Simon, met with the Log Cabin Republicans and pledged to take a number of pro-gay steps, including to support same-sex domestic partners’ benefits for state employees. After he was publicly criticized by his religious conservative supporters, he denied he made these pledges and declared his opposition to the benefits. This very high-profile reversal made gay issues a defining divide in the race, so that a vote for Simon at this point is effectively a vote to validate the ascendancy of the anti-gay right in the GOP and in state politics generally.

Gay issues should also weigh more heavily in the mind of a gay Republican voter if the candidate’s “anti-gay” positions are justified in anti-gay terms. For example, Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott (R-Mississippi) and the hypothetical gay Republican voter may agree that the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act is a bad idea. But where the gay Republican thinks ENDA is a bad idea because she dislikes federal intrusion into private employ-

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## POLITICS

# Gray Davis favored to win re-election

by Wayne Friday

Incumbent Democratic Governor **Gray Davis**, leading in most polls by anywhere from 8 to 10 percentage points, is expected to win re-election on Tuesday, November 5 – by default.

Both Davis and his conservative millionaire Republican opponent, **Bill Simon**, head into the election with two-thirds of those likely to vote still saying they don't really like either candidate.

During a recent campaign appearance before attendees at a Hispanic convention in Los Angeles, Davis stood ramrod straight and attempted to jokingly say what everyone in the place already knew. "My wife has all the charisma," Davis said. "I have zero." On

the very same day, Simon appeared in Salinas, also in front of a Hispanic audience. Simon's message was equally unimpressive and his campaign was still reeling from a statement made the day before by the chair of the GOP Congressional Campaign Committee, who had called the Simon campaign "the single worst-run race in the country." Simon further compounded his troubles by appearing in heavily-Hispanic areas of the Southland with former Governor **Pete Wilson**, who is still despised by voters in that minority group – both Republicans as well as Democrats.

California voters, however, while clearly unhappy with both Davis and Simon, still give Davis credit for some accomplishments like important reforms in education. But some still blame him for the state's \$24 billion budget deficit, last year's energy crisis, and for what many view as his embarrassing and questionable habit of taking contributions from those who want some sort of political favor.

Still, Davis clearly has the edge for re-election. He has run nearly \$20 million in TV ads depicting Simon as a shady businessman with far-right social issues, and has tried in the past few weeks to shore up a get-out-the-vote effort among the state's heavily Democratic voters. Davis's \$60 million campaign war chest seems to have been well spent in pointing out Simon's opposition to abortion, gun control and environmental regulation, to name a few issues in which the GOP candidate differs from most Californians.

Simon's relatively small campaign bankroll of around \$20 million (much of which he has lent to himself) has certainly kept him from fighting Davis's television ads effectively. As **Garry South**, Davis's chief campaign strategist put it, "This isn't a state where people have to love you to re-elect you, they just have to feel that you're a better alternative than your opponent."

At the very least, Davis, with much help from his opponent, has apparently managed to do that. Simon has simply played his hand badly: he delayed releasing his tax records, withdrew support he had promised gay Republicans for Gay Pride Day under heavy pressure from his ultra-conservative Chris-

tian Right supporters, and endured a jury verdict that his family's investment firm had committed fraud. After a friendly Republican judge eventually tossed out the verdict, Simon then once again undermined his credibility by erroneously claiming that Davis had illegally accepted a campaign contribution – a claim for which Simon was forced to admit was wrong and for which he had to apologize. Barring a dramatic shift in the view of likely voters or an enormous political blunder by the Davis camp in the final days of this campaign, the governor should win re-election on Tuesday.

Like Davis or not, there should be little doubt in any of our minds that he is indeed better than his alternative. Vote

for Gray Davis and **Cruz Bustamante** for lieutenant governor on November 5.

## Politics and people

Supervisor **Mark Leno** and the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund will co-host an Election Night victory party, MC'd by **Donna Sachet**, at the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street, starting at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5. Numerous LGBT candidates as well as other supporters will be in attendance and all are welcome (\$10 voluntary donation requested; no-host bar).

Yes, there is an openly gay Republican on Tuesday's local ballot – **Mike German**, is the GOP nominee against Representative **Nancy Pelosi** in the 8th Congressional District. He has no realistic chance of winning, but certainly makes for one of the best candidates the Republicans have offered of late.

The race for majorities in Congress next week are still too close to call, but according to the latest *USA Today/CNN/Gallup* Poll, Democrats are apparently benefiting from a last-minute boost by what many voters see as a weak economy and inadequate attention to the issue by **George W. Bush** and the national Republican Party. Forty-nine percent of likely voters say that if the election were held today, they would vote for the Democratic candidate in their congressional district; 46 percent say they would vote Republican. Whether that lead, still within the poll's margin of error, holds up through Tuesday and be enough to help Democrats gain the six seats needed to win a House majority remains in doubt. The Democrats control the Senate, 50-49, with one independent (who votes with the Democratic majority); 34 of those Senate seats are being voted on. Some analysts feel that Democrats might hold – and possibly gain a seat, but the tragic death last week of Minnesota Senator **Paul Wellstone** has put the control of that upper body of Congress very much in question, and indeed, a loss of a single seat to the GOP could give Republicans control again.

At press time, it appeared that former Vice President **Walter Mondale** would be tapped to replace Wellstone. Wellstone, considered the most liberal member



Walter Mondale

of the Senate, had his political enemies, but was well liked by even those such as **Jesse Helms** (R-North Carolina). Both California senators **Dianne Feinstein** (D) and **Barbara Boxer** (D) were considered "good friends" of Wellstone and were said by their staffs to be still "badly shaken" this week by his untimely death.

Mayor **Willie Brown**, one of the best ad lib speakers I've ever known, gave one of his finest speeches last week at his State of the City address. The mayor took his shots where he felt necessary, but there were some – including his longtime allies – who felt that Brown was maybe "blaming the messenger for bringing the message" when he chided the city's Convention and Visitors Bureau and others equally frustrated with the current state of the city. He was critical of the Hotel Council for its controversial homeless billboards. One such billboard shows a well-dressed businessman holding up a cardboard sign similar to those carried by panhandlers that read: "I want to know why homelessness is still a problem after we spent \$200 million last year."

Brown is probably correct if he feels that the timing of the San Francisco business establishment's attack on its own city's problems is somehow tied to Tuesday's local election, but with all due respect to the mayor, the most contentious issue on the local ballot is Proposition N, the initiative that would cut cash payments to the city's homeless individuals from \$395 to \$59 per month, with the remainder of the money going to serious services for the homeless. Tourist industry officials and the city's business leaders are certainly correct when they contend that the relatively high payments (the highest of any county in the state) serve as a magnet for homeless migrants. The *Bay Area Reporter* joins those who seriously want to do something about the still growing homeless problem – we urge our readers to vote yes on Proposition N (Care Not Cash) and no on Proposition O.

It's the courts, stupid: Do you really want Bill Simon, with the help of those like **Lou Sheldon**, appointing our state judges? Having appointed five openly gay judges, and 34 percent of his judicial appointments having been women, Gray Davis deserves re-election on that alone. Incidentally, the National Association of Women Judges recently announced that they plan to pass a resolution commending Davis for promoting women.

The three openly gay members of the House of Representatives should enjoy victories on Tuesday

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William Owen, Jr., M.D.  
Carl Stein, PA-C

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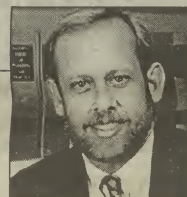
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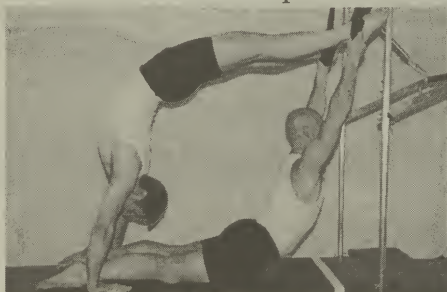
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# Two Gwens

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

As I write this, it's silent around the house. Everyone else is asleep, and I am alone with my thoughts. Right now, that is a difficult position to be in. You see, this has been one of the harder times in my life, and I really do not want to think about it. Thinking makes me cry.

Nevertheless, I find that I cannot avoid the images that sit just behind my eyes, in the recesses of my mind.

It seems silly to recount some of the issues at hand, as they have been replayed and repackaged all over the media, reported both locally and nationally, a procession of stories crowding their way to the top of the news. A 17-year-old transgendered woman was allegedly killed at a party, and is now mourned by all but the most hateful among us. That woman was Gwen Araujo.

This story has been more to me than just another anti-transgender murder, a statistic among all the other murders of transgendered people this year. One of 24 reported murders this year, 13 of which were in this country. It's a person, someone who was so young, so pretty, and had so much more to do in her life.

She lived in Newark, California, just an hour or so – depending on traffic – from San Francisco. Even then, the life she lived in Newark was years away from what we may enjoy in its Bay Area neighborhood.

Gwen's family attended an evangelical church when she was younger, and they remained religious even after they left it. So much so that she had gotten counseling for the last two years from Focus on the Family. Their goal was to get her to move beyond transgenderism, and "claim the sexual identity that matched his [sic] anatomy." I can only assume that once they got her to that point, they would then work on teaching her to be an ex-gay. After all, it worked so well for Candy – or should I say John – Paulk.

She wasn't entirely friendless, but she did have to face a lot of trouble from her peers: so much so that she left high school, turning to continuation school and eventually setting her sights on a high school equivalency diploma. The harassment that she had faced since her elementary school years was too much to allow her to remain in class.

It doesn't surprise me that she turned to alcohol and drugs to deal with the above. When I was a



Christine Smith

teen, I, too, did my share of drinking, and I found it a useful way to deaden some of the pain, and repress the hurt that I faced both externally and internally. And even though I was beaten up on a near daily basis in elementary school, I suspect I had a much easier time of it than Gwen Araujo. The only counselors I had to face were school counselors, who taught me how to repress my feelings, and not to cry when I was pummeled again and again. I'll take that over Focus on the Family any day.

I was in Newark, California the other day. It reminded me a lot of the area in which I grew up. I can only imagine – based on my own history – what life must have been for someone who started living largely in a female role starting when they were 14 or so. At that age, I decided I could not live my life as such, that I would probably end up dead. Maybe I was right.

In high school, I learned to hide myself, to remain small and hidden. What the school yard bullies had not accomplished, I did to myself. It took a decade or so to finally break away from that, and I think I still carry some of that baggage today. If I didn't, I doubt I'd be writing this column.

I hid who I was, while Gwen Araujo lived her dream. I did what I could to kill my spirit, while some boys at a party allegedly took her life. That is the thought that makes me cry.

It is as if this society has set us up for the fall. Youth who don't fit

the gender molds created for them are shunned and teased by peers, or end up in programs designed to make them good little boys or girls. We're told that if we don't conform, we will end up dead. All the while, so few provide resources to allow us to simply live as we are, and keep us safe in our schools and neighborhoods. The dire predictions of our demise become painful realities more often than any of us want to see.

In Newark, California, I attended a funeral for Gwen Araujo. I saw her there, laid out in her casket, her dark hair framing a face too pretty for this world, carefully manicured fingernails on lace gloved hands. She was just a girl, too innocent and too trusting of a world that didn't have a place for her – a world that let her down from the start.

The rest is silence.

As I type these words, it is silent around this home. I am alone with my thoughts. The first thought in my mind is of Gwen Araujo, lying forever in that casket, quite clearly not in slumber. It is an image that is etched just behind my eyes, and it makes me cry – for her, for me, and for everyone else out there who will have to face the same world both her and I are from. It is an image that will always be there. ▼

Gwen Smith will be hosting the Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20. She can be found on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at [www.gwensmith.com](http://www.gwensmith.com).

## OutRight

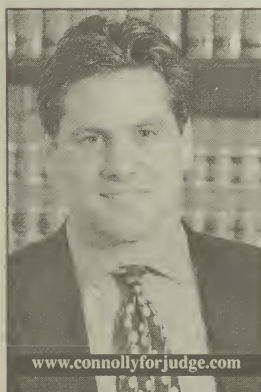
◀ page 10

ment relations, Lott opposes ENDA because he doesn't think the federal government should give "special rights" to "sinners" who are comparable to alcoholics and kleptomaniacs. The basis for Lott's opposition, if not the opposition itself, should count heavily against him.

Gay Republicans who vote for

a Republican candidate over a more gay-friendly Democrat are not necessarily self-hating. We are individuals living in a complex world full of hard choices. Gay equality is very important to us, but so is the rest of life. Like all voters, we often have to take the bad with the good. ▼

Dale Carpenter is a law professor. He can be reached at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com).



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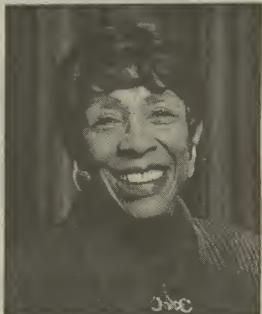
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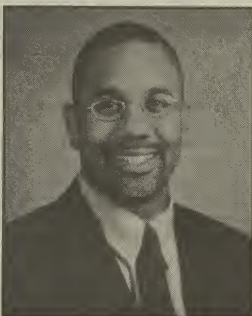
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Jack O'Connell (one of the best)

**Board of Equalization**

Carole Migden (local girl makes great)

**State Assembly**

Mark Leno

**Assessor Recorder**

Doris Ward (doing a great job)

**Supervisor District 6**

Burke Strunsky (he'll listen to you)

**Superior Court**

Sean Connolly (most qualified)

**College Board**

Johnnie Carter, Anita Grier, Lawrence Wong

**School Board**

James Calloway, Eddie Chin, Dan Kelly

**STATE PROPOSITIONS****Proposition 46** Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Bonds Act**YES YES YES****Proposition 47** Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bonds**YES****Proposition 48** Court Consolidation**YES****Proposition 49** After School State Funds**YES****Proposition 50** Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water, and Coastal Wetlands, Purchase & Protection Bonds**YES YES YES****Proposition 51** Transportation allocation of Sales and Use Taxes**YES****SAN FRANCISCO PROPOSITIONS****Prop A** - We lose local control of water supply and our water rates could triple**NO****Prop B** - Affordable Housing Bonds**YES YES YES****Prop C** - Bonds for War Memorial**NO****Prop D** - People are homeless, streets are dirty, General Hospital must be rebuilt and they want to buy PG&E**NO NO NO****Prop E** - Stepchild of A & D:**NO****Prop F** - Entertainment Commission Appointments**YES****Prop G** - Assistance to Elections Department**YES****Prop H** - Retirement Benefits for Public Safety Workers**YES YES YES****Prop I** - Paid Parental Leave**YES****Prop J** - Civil Service for Supervisors Salary**YES****Prop K** - Removes Affirmative Action from Public Notice contracts**NO NO NO****Prop L** - 100% increase Property Transfer Tax**NO****Prop M** - Economic Development Plan**YES****Prop N** - The system is broken, let's fix it**YES YES****Prop O** - This could have been done at the Board of Supervisors**NO****Prop P** - Public Utilities Commission Oversight Committee**YES****Prop Q** - Prohibition of the Use of City Funds for Political Purposes**YES****Prop R** - Home Ownership Program**YES****Prop S** - City Provision of Medical Marijuana**YES****BB** Bart Improvement Bonds**YES YES YES**



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# Candidates fighting neck and neck in District 8 election race

by Matthew S. Bajko

With only five days left to campaign for the San Francisco District 8 supervisor seat, the top three candidates are in a close race to replace Supervisor Mark Leno, who is running for state Assembly and likely to win the 13th District seat.

As of the latest campaign finance filings, which were due on October 24 to the city's Ethics Commission, openly gay Bevan Dufty, out lesbian Eileen Hansen, and openly gay Tom Radulovich all had more than \$20,000 in cash on hand to try to edge ahead of their opponents.

Radulovich, a BART board member who is endorsed by Leno to be his successor, raised \$67,079 through October 19. In addition, the Radulovich campaign has collected \$3,138 in contributions since the report was filed and has already been approved for an additional \$5,225 in public matching funds, bringing the total to \$75,442 (funds above the \$75,000 mark will be held in reserve for a possible runoff).

According to his filing, Radulovich still had \$29,000 in cash on hand for a last-minute

push before voters go to the polls on November 5. He reported he had already spent \$45,000 on his campaign.

Hansen, a nonprofit consultant with a background in AIDS policy, reported her campaign has raised \$68,196 with \$23,763 cash on hand as of the October 24 filing deadline. In addition, the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club reported it had spent \$500 on a mailer for Hansen.

Hansen also qualified for city funding, and reported she had applied for \$30,133 in public financing for her campaign. As of the filing deadline, she had spent \$44,458 on her bid to take the supervisor seat she lost in 2000 by less than 800 votes.

Trailing both Hansen and Radulovich was Dufty, who reported he had collected \$64,104 in his fight to return to City Hall as a legislator. A former supervisory aide and aide to Mayor Willie Brown, Dufty refused to take city financing for his campaign and limited contributions to \$100 from people who either live or work in San Francisco.

Dufty reported he still had \$28,160 on hand to spend during the last weeks of the campaign. As of the filing deadline, he had spent

\$35,943 on his effort to claim the District 8 seat.

Making a surprising attempt to beat out the top three contenders is James Green, a straight city firefighter and paramedic, who barely made a showing during his campaign in 2000. This time around, Green reported he has secured more than \$12,500 in donations to his campaign, with \$1,500 coming from himself during the first half of October.

Spending \$7,329 so far on his race, Green is hoping the groundswell of support for firemen and policemen seen after last year's terror attacks will send him to City Hall. His mailers show him in full firefighting gear ascending a ladder with fire ax in hand. Even his signs use the image of a red fire hat to remind voters of his profession.

Another candidate in the race, Shawn O'Hearn, an openly gay administrator at City College, reported he had raised \$3,738 in his fourth attempt at winning a supervisor seat. He reported only \$142 in cash remaining in his political coffers.

The sixth candidate in the race, Starchild, a gay escort and exotic dancer, did not file with the Ethics Commission. ▼

## Leather phone scam continues

by Zak Szymanski

Members of the leather community and others in the LGBT community in the Bay Area and beyond, beware: despite widespread publicity about a recent, but recurring scam, an unknown person continues to make calls claiming to be a well-known leather leader in need of money.

The scam has been happening on and off for the last few years, according to Mister Marcus, leather columnist for the *Bay Area Reporter*. It usually involves a person making collect calls to people in the leather and/or LGBT communities, claiming to be someone in the community with a recognizable name. The person may claim that he was mugged or attacked, and may state that he is in Los Angeles or some other area of the country and has no money to return home. Preying off the leather scene's sense of community, he often asks his victims to wire money to a Western Union location. Several people have fallen victim to this crime from all areas of the country, said Mister Marcus.

"It usually happens after a big leather event," he said, explaining that all the publicity around an event often generates printed materials with names and contact information for high-profile leather people. One such source of information could be the Folsom Street Fair program, which prompted

the publishers of the program to post an ad on last week's leather page of the *B.A.R.* warning people about the hoax. But the fact that no big events have occurred since Folsom, said Mister Marcus, is of particular concern, because the calls keep coming.

*B.A.R.* news editor Cynthia Laird experienced the scam attempt Sunday, October 27, when she received a collect call at home from a man identifying himself as Bob Goldfarb, head of SMMILE, the producers of the Up Your Alley and Folsom Street fairs.

"I was stunned," Laird said of receiving the call. "I don't really know Bob Goldfarb, but do know he would never call me at home, collect. I was immediately suspicious."

Laird said she listened for several minutes as the caller recited a list of woes. He said he had been assaulted in Los Angeles, had suffered a fractured nose, and needed money for airfare back to the Bay Area.

After awhile, Laird said that she told the caller, "I don't even know if you are Bob Goldfarb. Good-bye." And she hung up.

Laird urges others not to do what she did. "People should try to get a number to call back, alert the police, and take it from there," she said. "I was just so surprised that this was happening to me."

Laird quickly checked with Mister Marcus, who determined that Goldfarb was not in Los Angeles last weekend. ▼

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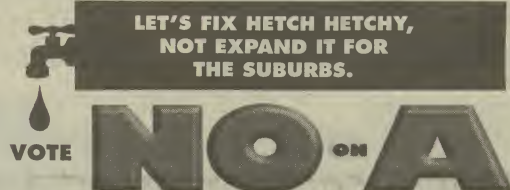
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The Good Government Alliance  
San Francisco Taxpayers and Homeowners Association  
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# Is transgender pronoun fight the wrong battle?

by Zak Szymanski

There are a few givens in the Gwen Araujo murder case. One is that Araujo's brutal death allegedly was the result of transphobia. Another is that the mainstream media initially denied Araujo's existence as a transgender teen, preferring to paint the victim as "a boy who dressed as a girl," and framing the crime in the context of sexual orientation. And no one contests that Gwen — born Eddie — adopted a female name, spoke to friends about a possible sex-change surgery, and preferred dresses and long hair over male-specific presentations.

But one thing that was not a given, particularly at Araujo's early age, was a fixed gender identity that included the full-time use of female pronouns.

Araujo may have felt uncomfortable asserting a right to a full-time female identity, or s/he may have, like many young genderqueer people today, been perfectly comfortable using both pronouns. Regardless, Araujo's friends and family — many of whom expressed acceptance and support for Araujo's gender identity — continue to refer to Gwen as both "female" and "he."

But as the transgender community rightfully fights to maintain Araujo's dignity and memory

in the media, the battle has become simplified, often coming down to editorial choices over pronouns. This has left some people frustrated by what they see as blanket assumptions about Araujo's identity, assumptions that aren't any better than mainstream bias, they say, just because the opinions come from the transgender community.

For transgender activist Shawna Virago, a survivor's advocate at Community United Against Violence, the strict focus on the use of pronouns for Araujo is counterproductive to transgender equality and recognition.

"I think it's important for all of us, when we think about honoring Gwen, to remember that she was still a questioning teen, so we can't say with certainty where she might have been as an adult. When I was that age I knew I was trans, but you go back and forth on whether or not to pursue hormones, surgery, or pronoun changes," said Virago, noting that younger transgenderers and genderqueers these days are increasingly "breaking the rules," and adopting identities and pronouns that don't fit into neat "male" and "female" boxes.

Honoring Araujo's memory should also include honoring the relationships s/he had with her family and friends, said Virago, which for whatever reasons included the use of both pronouns.

"Her family is in a tough spot. They were just getting to know her as a daughter, and they have a whole history with her that we on the outside can't minimize," said Virago. "I think it's best for us to honor Gwen using 's/he' at this point, which doesn't take away the horror of what happened."

Transgender activist and San Francisco commissioner Denise D'Anne originally was upset with the *Bay Area Reporter's* decision to use "s/he" to refer to Araujo, writing a letter to the editor that accused the paper of "splitting" Araujo's identity.

But for many transgender people, noted Boston-based gender

activist Gunner Scott, creator of the Web site butchdykeboy.com, acknowledging and honoring a person's complex history can make a person more complete, not less so.

"I think about how my mother would respond if this happened to me, and I'm sure she would use female pronouns and call me her daughter. And that's okay. I am her daughter," said Scott, who lived as a transgender person for years before recently switching to the "he" pronoun on a more full-time basis. Still, Scott's friends and family sometimes use "he" and "she" interchangeably, and Scott sometimes like to "mix it up" and use "s/he."

"My whole theory is we need to expand the categories and not just stick to one or two," he said, noting that many transgenderers are often pressured into binary identities and thought processes due to the rigid transgender "standards of care" that dictate how they can receive hormones, surgery, and other needed treatment.

Since writing her letter, D'Anne told the *B.A.R.* that her insistence at using female pronouns for Araujo came from a place of wanting to distinguish the victim from a part-time cross-dresser, as the mainstream media had originally implied.

"There is no question that this was an identity for her," said D'Anne. "From what little history I know of Gwen, she lived as a woman, so I thought the best thing to do would be to assume she was a 'she' and get it over with."

For activists like Virago, honoring the complexities of a hate crime victim's gender does not diminish his or her memory, nor does it justify the crime.

"I do think that as trans people it's important we don't unintentionally support the gender binary, and that can happen by having a non-critical analysis of gender," said Virago. "Many trans and genderqueer people do use pronouns that others may not expect. But our uniqueness is our power, and the more we can honor that, the more power we have." ▼



## HOUSING RIGHTS ASSOCIATION

### Message from the President



Davy Jones

*Proposition R is designed to weaken rent control. Please vote NO on R. District Six needs a supervisor who is in tune with the LGBT community. I urge you to vote for Burke Strunsky for Supervisor. He will fight for progressive issues and will stand up to Special Interests.*

### Recommendations for Nov. 5th Elections



Burke Strunsky - District 6

*LGBTQ choice for District 6 Supervisor. A Renter who is committed to rent control, domestic partners, medical marijuana, neighborhood safety and funding for AIDS.*



Mark Lenon  
Assembly District 13



Gray Davis  
Re-elect



Andrew Lee - District 4

*Trusted and Respected  
Will make an effective Supervisor.*



Mabel Teng - Assessor - Recorder

*New Leadership  
Honesty. Integrity*



Lawrence Wong - Community Board

*Experienced Incumbent  
Proven advocate for LGBTQ Community.*

### TAKE THIS GUIDE TO THE POLLS NOVEMBER 5TH

#### City Propositions

A. Water Bonds	Yes	I. Paid Parental	Yes
B. Affordable Housing	Yes	J. Supervisor Salaries	Yes
C. Veterans Building	Yes	K. Save Neighborhood	No
D. Public Power	Yes	Newspapers	No
E. Water Sewage Rates	Yes	L. Real Estate Tax	Yes
F. Entertainment Com	Yes	M. City not Cash	No
G. Elections Assistance	Yes	R. Hope	No
H. Police/Fire Engine	Yes	S. Medical Marijuana	Yes

## Araujo memorial

◀ page 1

charges of murder and hate crime enhancements. Police allege that Araujo was murdered because the suspects discovered Araujo was a biological male. Araujo attended a party at Merel's home the night of the alleged October 3 attack, and was wearing a skirt.

Last week, Araujo's body was buried as a woman. Araujo's mother had previously said that the headstone would read "Gwen," one of the names Araujo used, according to friends. Araujo was also known as "Lida."

The case has stunned the Bay Area and has generated much media attention. Transgender activists continue to be critical of some coverage — particularly television — that has portrayed Araujo as a "boy who lived as a girl," and a "crossdresser."

After the funeral, hundreds of activists and supporters gathered at impromptu memorials in several cities around the Bay Area. In San Francisco, the gay Latino group AGUILAS co-sponsored a candlelight vigil with the Gay and

Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation at the LGBT Community Center.

Monica Taher, GLAAD's northwestern media manager, told the *B.A.R.* that "The central message for GLAAD is for the media to start covering these issues in a fair, accurate, and inclusive manner."

Taher acknowledged that the sensitive issue of pronoun usage has become part of the story.

While it is believed that Araujo's immediate family members were generally supportive of the transgender teen — based on the mother's public comments — it has been reported that Araujo faced constant anti-gay taunts in school, which likely led to Araujo attending Bridgepoint High School, a small continuation school in Newark.

The transgender community has used female pronouns when referring to Araujo; the family members have used male pronouns.

Taher declined to characterize the conflicting pronoun usage from activists and family members as "confusing" to reporters who have to cover the story, but said, "It makes you think twice. Yes, it makes you hesitate." ▼

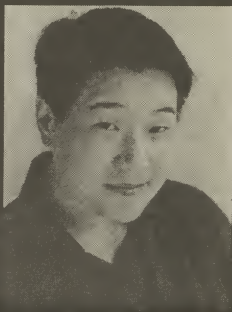


# BAY AREA REPORTER

# says Vote NO on Proposition D...

***“We have long opposed the takeover of the electric services by the city. [C]heaper rates will not occur... [T]he cost... would be prohibitive...”***

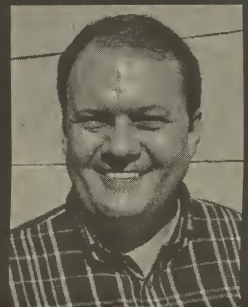
— Bay Area Reporter, October 24, 2002



**Esther Lee**

***“ We support public power and that’s why we are voting NO on Proposition D. Proposition D will turn the City’s focus away from needed energy solutions. Once passed, voters will lose all opportunity to steer City energy policy – instead handing over that power to City Hall and a new, unworkable City Commission. For a real energy plan, vote NO on D. ”***

— Esther Lee and Rich Kowalewski, Board Members, Alice B. Toklas Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Democratic Club



**Rich Kowalewski**

# San Franciscans are United Against Proposition D

- African American Democratic Club
- Asian Business Association
- Asian Pacific Democratic Club
- Building Owners & Managers Association
- Building Trades Council
- City Democratic Club
- Chinese American Citizens Alliance
- Chinese American Democratic Club
- Coalition For San Francisco Neighborhoods
- Communication Workers of America, Local 9415
- District 6 Democratic Club
- District 11 Democratic Club
- Excelsior District Improvement Association
- Engineers & Scientists of California, Local 20
- FDR Democratic Club
- Filipino Democratic Empowerment Council
- Golden Gate Restaurant Association
- Irish American Democratic Club
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1245
- Korean American Community Center
- Latino Political Action Committee
- Leg Cabin Republicans
- National Women's Political Caucus
- Plan C
- RFK Democratic Club
- Residential Builders Association
- SF Apartment Association
- SF Black Leadership Forum
- SF Building Trades Council
- SF Chamber of Commerce
- SF Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- SF Republican County Central Committee
- SF Small Property Owners Association
- SF Women's Political Committee
- SPUR
- Sunset Heights Association of Responsible People
- Sunset Parkside Democratic Club
- 12th AD Democratic Club
- 12th AD Chinese American Democratic Club
- Westside Chinese Democratic Club
- Westside Democratic Club

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 Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr.  
 Supervisor Tony Hall  
 Supervisor Gavin Newsom  
 Supervisor Leland Yee  
 SFPUC Commissioner Art B...  
 SFPUC Com...

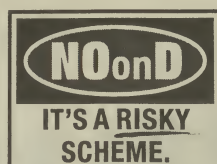
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Former Supervisor Michael Yaki  
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Former SFPU Commissioner Mary I. Callanan  
City College

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Ann Cervantes  
Douglas S. Chon  
Claudine Cheng  
Elsa Cheung  
Arnold Chin  
Barbara Chionsin  
Pat Christensen  
Anni Chung  
Ken Cleaveland  
Dona Crowder  
Margaret Cruz  
Mike Denunzio  
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Hart  
J. T. Hayward  
Himmann  
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Hill  
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Jew  
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Rich Kowalewski  
Joseph W. Kwok  
Joseph R. Lacey  
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George Leal  
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Eva Lee  
Yvonne Lee  
Rodney Leong  
Lesley Leonhardt  
Leonard Levitan  
Harrison B. Lim  
Leli Lubekman

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Redmond Lyons  
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Angelo Marcheschi  
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Sonia Melara  
Barbara Mestukas  
Robert Mellett  
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Sandy Mori  
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Julie Soo  
Parish Spisz  
Virginia Stefanelli  
Michael Strunsky  
Gloria Tan  
Tom Walsh  
Mel Washington  
Walter Wong  
Harold T. Yee  
Dennis Zell

(partial list)

**No limit on costs.  
No cap on utility rates.  
No right to vote.**



## Vote NO on D Nov. 5

This message brought to you by San Franciscans Against  
the Blank Check – No on DA *coalition of neighborhoods,  
business, Pacific Gas and Electric, labor & consumers*





Gay & Lesbian Catholics,  
Our Families & Friends  
Eucharist Every Sunday 5:30 p.m.  
Seventh Avenue Church  
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## Marijuana conference in Anaheim next week

by Liz Highleyman

The Marijuana Policy Project, in conjunction with Students for Sensible Drug Policy, will hold its first national conference November 7-10 in Anaheim.

MPP focuses on minimizing the harms associated with marijuana, including the laws that prohibit its use. SSDP is best known for spearheading efforts to repeal provisions of the Higher Education Act that deny financial aid to students convicted of drug law violations.

Opening with an evening reception next Thursday, the conference will feature three days of education, entertainment, and networking for drug law reform advocates.

Among the weekend's featured speakers is former Clinton administration Surgeon General Dr. Joycelyn Elders, who will headline a panel on the role of physicians in drug policy reform.

Other speakers will include author Mike Gray, local AIDS and medical marijuana researcher Dr. Donald Abrams, Ethan Nadelmann of the Drug Policy Alliance, award-winning producer Aaron Russo, and singer Michelle Phillips. A special event Saturday evening will feature comedian John Fugelsang.

Mike Males of the National Youth Rights Association, Ginger Katz of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, and harm reduction advocate and researcher Marsha Rosenbaum will debate how children should be treated in the war on drugs. Orange County Superior

or Court Judge Jim Gray and others will discuss conservative opposition to existing drug laws.

The Drug Enforcement Administration's recently intensified crackdown on California medical cannabis patients and providers, recent medical marijuana research developments, government anti-drug propaganda, and music and the drug war will be among the many other topics covered during the weekend.

Coming just days after the November elections, conference sponsors hope the gathering will be a victory celebration as well.

"This will be a hugely important election year for drug policy in general and marijuana policy in particular," said MPP Executive Director Robert Kampia.

Kampia cited ballot initiatives in Nevada (sponsored by MPP) and Arizona to decriminalize marijuana use, a medical marijuana measure in Washington, D.C., treatment not jail initiatives for nonviolent drug offenders in Michigan and Ohio, and an industrial hemp measure in South Dakota.

"This may well be the year that voters 'just say no' to the cruelest, most harmful drug war policies," stated Kampia. "With major changes already announced in England and under consideration in Canada, 2002 is likely to mark the beginning of the end of our nation's failed war on drugs." ▼

The MPP/SSDP conference will take place at the Hilton in Anaheim. Registration is \$175. For more information visit [www.mpp.org/conference](http://www.mpp.org/conference).

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### STRUNSKY FOR SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 6

Committed to bringing you safer neighborhoods,  
cleaner streets, and affordable housing.

As your Supervisor I will:

- advocate equal LGBT marriage & immigration rights
- expand treatment programs for mental health and substance abuse
- maintain rent control
- increase affordable housing through city partnerships and community planning
- encourage business revitalization and tourism
- fight to increase funding for HIV/AIDS health care services



A real friend to our community

#### BUILDING COALITIONS WITH RESPECT

"Burke Strunsky's commitment to the transgendered community is unsurpassed"  
- Commissioner Veronika Cauley

"His support for more funding for AIDS neighborhood services, and parks and recreation facilities has earned him my support."  
- Mitch Thompson

"The progressive vision, honesty, and ability to unite the District."  
- District 6 Democrats

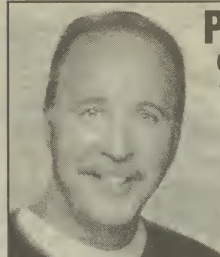
**WWW.STRUNSKYFORSUPERVISOR.ORG**

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### THE CHRISTIAN RIGHT IS WRONG CHRISTIAN + GAY = OK



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## THE SPORTS PAGE

# The torch at 20

## Gay Games from start to Sydney

by Jim Provenzano

Tom Waddell had accepted a Cable Car Award for best gay male athlete, the same night as Mark Brown, who was recognized for sports writing. In his comments in 1982, Waddell proposed, "How about if we had an Olympics Games for gay people sponsored by the city of San Francisco and invite the rest of the world?"

Waddell had been an Olympic athlete, and for that, we have the U.S. Army to thank.

After refusing to go to Vietnam as a contentious objector, military officials shipped the medically-trained private to a hospital, then sent him to Fort Sam Houston to train with the Army Track Team. At the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, Waddell placed sixth in the decathlon.

After returning, Waddell faced another court martial for openly supporting the Black Caucus of athletes. It was dismissed. His civilian life in San Francisco timed wonderfully with the gay and lesbian liberation movement blossoming in San Francisco.



Participant at Gay Games I

### Gay Games I

San Francisco, August/September 1982  
1,300 male and female competitors; 16 sports

Nearly canceled by a U.S. Olympic Committee lawsuit against Waddell, thousands of souvenir Gay "Olympics" T-shirts, posters, and graphics are pulled from shelves, but the event's spirit persists. The renamed Gay Games had been preceded by a nationwide Torch Run from the Stonewall bar in Manhattan, through the Midwest and to Kezar Stadium, where Tina Turner performs "in a red Bob Mackie fringe dress about the size of a scarf," as noted in *In Touch for Men*. Armistead Maupin redefines our purpose at Opening Ceremonies; "The operative word here is 'gay,' not Olympics."

### Gay Games II

San Francisco, August 1986  
3,482 male and female competitors; 17 sports

First-time jitters over, San Francisco hosts the second event to even greater numbers, and more media attention.

George Baramisa, a Santa Cruz-born writer, World War II veteran, and activist said, "When I entered Physique in 1986, I had to



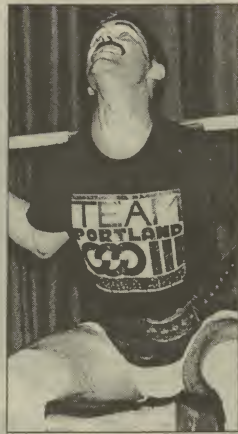
Medal trio at Gay Games II

ask to have my own age group added."

He also started Arcadia Bodybuilding Society after the thrill of his Civic Auditorium first competition. "It was huge. I was terrified. And they gave me a standing ovation. It blew my mind. I started to

cry. That's when I was able to really like coming out all the way."

A year later, Tom Waddell would die of AIDS-related complications on July 11, 1987, but not before marrying lesbian Sara Lewinstein, and fathering a daughter.



Powerlifter Pascal Ferrant, Gay Games III

### Gay Games III

Vancouver, Canada, August 1990  
12,000 competitors; 24 sports;  
\$7 million in advertising revenue.

Vancouver hosts thousands but suffers some financial complications. AIDS travel becomes a greater issue, with many original participants dealing with it, or lost

to it. Yet outdoor events like triathlon take place in a beautiful coastal gay-friendly city. As sports organizing grows, dozens of teams subsequently form around the world. A huge red ribbon highlights the swimmers' Pink Flamingo water ballet show.

### Gay Games IV

New York City, June 1994  
11,000 participants; 22 sports;  
and a larger cultural festival

New York's grid system confuses some, but the five boroughs host even more sports and cultural events. Records are broken. Visiting tourists sport team jackets and shiny medals on subways and streets. Surprisingly, none get mugged.

Coinciding with the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall riots and Pride events makes it magical and meaningful. The uptown march splits, with one official (corporate sponsors, the big rain-

page 34 ►

## NOVEMBER 5TH GENERAL ELECTION ENDORSEMENT LOG CABIN CLUB OF SAN FRANCISCO



Lieutenant Governor:  
8th Congressional District  
State Assembly, 12th AD:  
BART Board, 8th BD:  
Superior Court Seat #10:  
Supervisor, District 2:  
Supervisor, District 8:  
Board of Education:  
Community College Board:

Hon. Bruce McPherson  
G. Michael German  
Howard Epstein\*  
Hon. James Fang\*  
Sean F. Connolly\*  
Hon. Gavin Newsom\*  
Starchild  
Alexandra Pastine\*  
Hon. Johnnie L. Carter\*  
Hon. Anita Grier, Ph.D.\*  
Hon. Lawrence Wong\*

### State Proposition 52: NO

Proposition A:	YES	Proposition K:	NO
Proposition B:	NO	Proposition L*:	NO
Proposition C:	NO	Proposition M:	YES
Proposition D*:	NO	Proposition N*:	YES
Proposition E:	YES	Proposition O:	NO
Proposition F:	No Position	Proposition P:	YES
Proposition G:	NO	Proposition Q:	YES
Proposition H*:	YES	Proposition R*:	YES
Proposition I:	NO	Proposition S:	NO
Proposition J:	NO	Measure BB:	No Position

Paid for by the candidates and propositions indicated by an asterisk (\*).

For more information about Log Cabin Republicans, write to: Log Cabin Club of San Francisco, P.O. Box 14174, San Francisco, CA 94114 or call: (415) 931-2651 or (415) 921-4844; or email: [lcrsf@yahoo.com](mailto:lcrsf@yahoo.com)





**Safety Information:** Adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to use of AndroGel® in the controlled trial (n=154) across all dose levels reported in at least 2% of patients included lab test abnormal 5.8%, acne 5.2%, application site reaction 5.2%, prostate disorder 4.5%, headache 2.6%, and hypertension 2.6%.

• Adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to use of AndroGel in a 1-year follow up (n=106) across all dose levels reported in at least 2% of patients included application site reaction 9.4%, prostate disorder 8.5%, acne 5.7%, and lab test abnormal 4.7%.

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• Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast, or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate. Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.

• To minimize the potential transfer of testosterone to another person, patients should wash their hands immediately with soap and water after application of AndroGel. They should cover the application site(s) with clothing after the gel has dried.

**Please see brief summary of prescribing information.**



# Fatigued? Depressed mood? Low sex drive? Could be your testosterone is running on empty.

For men living with HIV, both the disease and the treatments can cause a medical condition called hypogonadism, or low testosterone levels. In fact, 30-50% of HIV+ men have low testosterone (hypogonadism),<sup>1,2</sup> which can cause depression, fatigue, and low sex drive as well as other problems. Your doctor can check your testosterone level with a simple blood test.



Fortunately you can replace testosterone with AndroGel® which delivers natural testosterone in a gel that you simply rub into your skin – no patches or injections. As it's absorbed through your skin, AndroGel treats hypogonadism by restoring your testosterone to its normal range.

1. Dobs AS. Androgen therapy in AIDS wasting. *Baillière's Clin Endocrinol Metab* 1998;12:379-390.

2. Grinspoon S, Corcoran C, Askari H, et al. Effects of androgen administration in men with the AIDS wasting syndrome: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Ann Intern Med* 1998;129:18-26.

**Ask your doctor if AndroGel is right for you.**

For more information please visit:

**www.androgel.com** or call **1-800-241-1643**



**Testosterone restored**





## AndroGel® (testosterone gel) 1% CII

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

AndroGel® is indicated for replacement therapy in males for conditions associated with a deficiency or absence of endogenous testosterone:

1. Primary hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—testicular failure due to cryptorchidism, bilateral torsion, orchitis, vanishing testis syndrome, orchiectomy, Klinefelter's syndrome, chemotherapy, or toxic damage from alcohol or heavy metals. These men usually have low serum testosterone levels and gonadotropins (FSH, LH) above the normal range.
2. Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—idiopathic gonadotropin or luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) deficiency or pituitary-hypothalamic injury from tumors, trauma, or radiation. These men have low testosterone serum levels but have gonadotropins in the normal or low range.

AndroGel® has not been clinically evaluated in males under 18 years of age.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate.

AndroGel® is not indicated for use in women, has not been evaluated in women, and must not be used in women.

Pregnant women should avoid skin contact with AndroGel® application sites in men. Testosterone may cause fetal harm. In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of a pregnant woman, the general area of contact on the woman should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water.

AndroGel® should not be used in patients with known hypersensitivity to any of its ingredients, including testosterone USP that is chemically synthesized from soy.

### WARNINGS

1. Prolonged use of high doses of orally active 17-alpha-alkyl androgens (e.g., methyltestosterone) has been associated with serious hepatic adverse effects (peliosis hepatis, hepatic neoplasms, cholestatic hepatitis, and jaundice). Peliosis hepatis can be a life-threatening or fatal complication. Long-term therapy with testosterone enanthate, which elevates blood levels for prolonged periods, has produced multiple hepatic adenomas. Testosterone is not known to produce these adverse effects.
2. Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.
3. Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy. In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men (see PRECAUTIONS: Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility and Laboratory Tests).
4. Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with preexisting cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. In addition to discontinuation of the drug, diuretic therapy may be required.
5. Gynecomastia frequently develops and occasionally persists in patients being treated for hypogonadism.
6. The treatment of hypogonadal men with testosterone esters may potentiate sleep apnea in some patients, especially those with risk factors such as obesity or chronic lung diseases.

### PRECAUTIONS

Transfer of testosterone to another person can occur when vigorous skin-to-skin contact is made with the application site (see Clinical Studies). The following precautions are recommended to minimize potential transfer of testosterone from AndroGel®-treated skin to another person:

- Patients should wash their hands immediately with soap and water after application of AndroGel®.
- Patients should cover the application site(s) with clothing after the gel has dried (e.g., a shirt).
- In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of another person, the general area of contact on the other person should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water.

Changes in body hair distribution, significant increase in acne, or other signs of virilization of the female partner should be brought to the attention of a physician.

### General

The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following:

- Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis.
- Any nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.
- Breathing disturbances, including those associated with sleep.

### Information for Patients

Advise patients to carefully read the information brochure that accompanies each carton of 30 AndroGel® single-use packets.

### Advise patients of the following:

- AndroGel® should not be applied to the scrotum.
- AndroGel® should be applied once daily to clean, dry skin.
- After application of AndroGel® it is currently unknown for how long showering or swimming should be delayed. For optimal absorption of testosterone, it appears reasonable to wait at least 5-6 hours after application prior to showering or swimming. Nevertheless, showering or swimming after just 1 hour should have a minimal effect on the amount of AndroGel® absorbed if done very infrequently.

### Laboratory Tests

1. Hemoglobin and hematocrit levels should be checked periodically (to detect polycythemia) in patients on long-term androgen therapy.
2. Liver function, prostatic specific antigen, cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein should be checked periodically.
3. To ensure proper dosing, serum testosterone concentrations should be measured (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

### Drug Interactions

Oxyphenbutazone: Concurrent administration of oxyphenbutazone and androgens may result in elevated serum levels of oxyphenbutazone.

Insulin: In diabetic patients, the metabolic effects of androgens may decrease blood glucose and, therefore, insulin requirements.

Propranolol: In a published pharmacokinetic study of an injectable testosterone product, administration of testosterone cypionate led to an increased clearance of propranolol in the majority of men tested.

Corticosteroids: The concurrent administration of testosterone with ACTH or corticosteroids may enhance edema formation; thus, these drugs should be administered cautiously, particularly in patients with cardiac or hepatic disease.

### Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions

Androgens may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T4 serum levels and increased resin uptake of T3 and T4. Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged, however, and there is no clinical evidence of thyroid dysfunction.

### Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Animal Data: Testosterone has been tested by subcutaneous injection and implantation in mice and rats. In mice, the implant induced cervical-uterine tumors, which metastasized in some cases. There is suggestive evidence that injection of testosterone into some strains of female mice increases their susceptibility to hepatoma. Testosterone is also known to increase the number of tumors and decrease the degree of differentiation of chemically induced carcinomas of the liver in rats.

Human Data: There are rare reports of hepatocellular carcinoma in patients receiving long-term oral therapy with androgens in high doses. Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.

Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy.

In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men.

Pregnancy Category X (see Contraindications)—Teratogenic Effects: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.

Nursing Mothers: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.

Pediatric Use: Safety and efficacy of AndroGel® in pediatric patients have not been established.

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

In a controlled clinical study, 154 patients were treated with AndroGel® for up to 6 months. Adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by ≥1% of the patients are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to Use of AndroGel® in the Controlled Clinical Trial

Adverse Event	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Acne	1%	3%	8%
Alopecia	1%	0%	1%
Application Site Reaction	5%	3%	4%
Asthenia	0%	3%	1%
Depression	1%	0%	1%
Emotional Lability	0%	3%	3%
Gynecomastia	1%	0%	3%
Headache	4%	3%	0%
Hypertension	3%	0%	3%
Lab Test Abnormal*	6%	5%	3%
Libido Decreased	0%	3%	1%
Nervousness	0%	3%	1%
Pain Breast	1%	3%	1%
Prostate Disorder**	3%	3%	5%
Testis Disorder	3%	0%	0%

\*Lab test abnormal occurred in nine patients with one or more of the following events: elevated hemoglobin or hematocrit, hyperlipidemia, elevated triglycerides, hypokalemia, decreased HDL, elevated glucose, elevated creatinine, or elevated total bilirubin.

\*\*Prostate disorders included five patients with enlarged prostate, one patient with BPH, and one patient with elevated PSA results.

The following adverse events possibly related to the use of AndroGel® occurred in fewer than 1% of patients: amnesia, anxiety, discolored hair, dizziness, dry skin, hirsutism, hostilia, impaired urination, paresthesia, penis disorder, peripheral edema, sweating, and vasodilation.

In this clinical trial of AndroGel®, skin reactions at the site of application were occasionally reported with AndroGel®, but none was severe enough to require treatment or discontinuation of drug.

Six (4%) patients in this trial had adverse events that led to discontinuation of AndroGel®. These events included the following: cerebral hemorrhage, convulsion (neither of which were considered related to AndroGel® administration), depression, sadness, memory loss, elevated prostate specific antigen and hypertension. No AndroGel® patients discontinued due to skin reactions.

In an uncontrolled pharmacokinetic study of 10 patients, two had adverse events associated with AndroGel®; these were asthenia and depression in one patient and increased libido and hyperkinesia in the other. Among 17 patients in foreign clinical studies there was one instance each of acne, erythema and benign prostate adenoma associated with a 2.5% testosterone gel formulation applied dermally.

One hundred six (106) patients have received AndroGel® for up to 12 months in a long-term follow-up study for patients who completed the controlled clinical trial. The preliminary safety results from this study are consistent with those reported for the controlled clinical trial. Table 2 summarizes those adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by at least 1% of the total number of patients during long-term exposure to AndroGel®.

Table 2. Incidence of Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to the Use of AndroGel® in the Long-Term, Follow-up Study

Adverse Event	Dose of AndroGel®		
	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Lab Test Abnormal*	4.2%	0.0%	6.3%
Peripheral Edema	1.4%	0.0%	3.1%
Acne	2.8%	0.0%	12.5%
Application Site Reaction	9.7%	10.0%	3.1%
Prostate Disorder**	2.8%	5.0%	18.8%
Urination Impaired	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%

\*Lab test abnormal included one patient each with elevated GGT, elevated hematocrit and hemoglobin, increased total bilirubin, worsened hyperlipidemia, decreased HDL, and hypokalemia.

\*\*Prostate disorders included enlarged prostate, elevated PSA results, and in one patient, a new diagnosis of prostate cancer; three patients (one taking 7.5 g daily and two taking 10 g daily) discontinued AndroGel® treatment during the long-term study because of such disorders.

### DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

AndroGel® contains testosterone, a Schedule III controlled substance as defined by the Anabolic Steroids Control Act. Oral ingestion of AndroGel® will not result in clinically significant serum testosterone concentrations due to extensive first-pass metabolism.

### OVERDOSAGE

There is one report of acute overdosage by injection of testosterone enanthate: testosterone levels of up to 11,400 ng/dl were implicated in a cerebrovascular accident.

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The recommended starting dose of AndroGel® 1% is 5 g delivering 5 mg of testosterone systemically, applied once daily (preferably in the morning) to clean, dry, intact skin of the shoulders and upper arms and/or abdomen. Upon opening the packet(s), the entire contents should be squeezed into the palm of the hand and immediately applied to the application sites. Application sites should be allowed to dry for a few minutes prior to dressing. Hands should be washed with soap and water after AndroGel® has been applied.

Do not apply AndroGel® to the genitals.

Serum testosterone levels should be measured approximately 14 days after initiation of therapy to ensure proper dosing. If the serum testosterone concentration is below the normal range, or if the desired clinical response is not achieved, the daily AndroGel® 1% dose may be increased from 5 g to 7.5 g and from 7.5 g to 10 g as instructed by the physician.

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# Court supports pot docs

by Liz Highleyman

The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Tuesday, October 29 that the government cannot revoke the licenses of doctors who recommend medical marijuana to their patients.

The three-judge federal appeals panel, in a unanimous opinion, held that a U.S. Department of Justice ban on such recommendations interferes with free speech rights.

"An integral component of the practice of medicine is the communication between doctor and a patient," stated Judge Mary Schroeder. "Physicians must be able to speak frankly and openly to patients."

Doctors cannot legally prescribe cannabis, but may advise patients on its medical benefits. Patients must obtain their own supply of the drug.

Tuesday's decision marks the latest round in a 1997 lawsuit brought by California patients and doctors, including local AIDS specialist Dr. Marcus Conant and Bay

Area Physicians for Human Rights, in the wake of Proposition 215.

Former President Bill Clinton's Department of Justice and then-drug czar General Barry McCaffrey threatened doctors who recommend marijuana with loss of their federal Drug Enforcement Administration licenses to prescribe medicine and exclusion from Medicare and Medicaid programs.

"Discussions between a physician and patient about the risks and benefits of medical marijuana constitute protected speech under the First Amendment," argued plaintiffs' attorney Graham Boyd when the suit was filed.

"My colleagues and I have seen marijuana work to relieve nausea and stimulate appetite where other drugs fail, and scores of studies support our observations," stated Conant. "The medical community deserves more respect than having a retired general in Washington tell us how to practice medicine."

In September 2000 U.S. District Judge William Alsup issued an injunction prohibiting the federal government from revoking

doctors' licenses "merely because the doctor recommends medical marijuana to a patient based on a sincere medical judgment." The Bush administration challenged the order, and the Ninth Circuit Court heard the appeal in May.

Presenting the federal government's case, attorney Michael Stern argued that California's medical cannabis law is "interfering with the drug war and circumventing the government's judgment that marijuana has no medical benefits."

In May 2000 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the federal Controlled Substances Act makes no exception for medical use of cannabis.

The panel's ruling this week upholds Judge Alsup's original verdict.

"This is a critically important ruling," said Marijuana Policy Project Executive Director Robert Kampia. "It upholds the central pillar of all eight state medical marijuana laws: the right of physicians to recommend marijuana based on their best medical judgment." ▼

## Gay Games

◀ page 1

coalition to provide collateral for a \$2 million (Australian) bank guarantee. The relieved organizers announced the deal on October 23.

But just two days later, the organizers announced the deal had fallen apart when two of the financial backers decided to pull out of the agreement. Westpack Bank and the South Sydney Council decided to back out of the deal that would have released \$1 million (U.S. dollars) to the Games.

According to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the bank expressed reservations about the Gay Games' viability, fearing the international competition would not take place. Adding to the lenders' worries, Ticketek said that as of October 18 less than half of the tickets for the Game's opening ceremonies on November 2 had been sold, and even fewer tickets had been purchased for the Games' events.

Despite the dismal ticket sales, the company announced it would release \$300,000 to the organizers to help relieve their cash flow crunch. With the small victory under their belt, organizers tried to save face, saying the Games would not be canceled and ticket sales were expected to surge once the 13,000 athletes expected to compete had arrived in Sydney.

"We're quite pleased with the sales," Judith Fletcher, chief executive officer of the Gay Games, told reporters in Sydney on October 25. She added that there had been a "significant surge" in sales last week, but did not disclose the latest figures.

As Games organizers battled with Ticketek, another fight was being waged between two government entities to whom the event's hosts had turned for monetary help.

Games organizers had approached the City of Sydney and South Sydney Council last week to be co-guarantors for a bank loan of \$500,000. The two governments ended up haggling over how much each would be expected to pony up for the Games.

While the South Sydney Council voted to lend the Games

\$250,000 to help secure the bank loan, the City of Sydney refused unless the South Sydney officials kicked in another \$200,000.

The city officials argued they had already supplied \$400,000 (including \$200,000 cash) to the Games, and would not sign on as guarantors for the loan until South Sydney matched their contribution, according to the *Sydney Star Observer*, the city's gay newspaper.

### Late victory

With the politicians quibbling via fax with each other, Sydney Gay Games organizers appeared to be in trouble heading into the final weekend before the start of the Games. Down but not completely out, the host committee rallied over the weekend and announced on Monday, October 28 that they had pulled off a victory.

As reported by the online site Outsports.com, the Sydney hosts had worked out a deal with Ticketek, Playbill, and the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust under which some of the funds from pre-sold tickets would be released early.

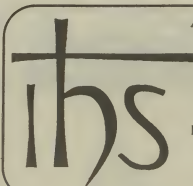
Bev Lange, co-chair of Sydney 2002 Gay Games, told the Web site, "Ticketek, Playbill, and the Trust have already received the first bank guarantees and released \$600,000 (Aussie dollars) to meet our requirements for this past week and we have also very substantially reduced our requirement for cash in the lead up to the Games."

"That arrangement has been made possible by the support of members of the gay and lesbian community who have given guarantees in support of the release of funds. We are also in a position to supply guarantees to ensure release of the funds required next week," added Lange.

With their cash crunch apparently solved, the host committee turned its attention this week to final preparations for Saturday's kick-off party.

"An event of this size will always have its challenges, but the only main one left for us is to deliver the most fabulous sporting and cultural festival Sydney has ever seen," wrote Lange and co-chair Peter Bailey, in an e-mail to the *Bay Area Reporter*. "On 2 No-

vember the only place to be in Sydney is Aussie Stadium. The magic starts when our teams hear the audience roar when they march into the stadium. Now's the time to get behind Australia and be entertained by this amazing arena spectacular. If you're a part of the Opening Ceremony and Welcome Party - we promise you the night of your life." ▼



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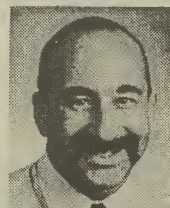
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Solano Health Promotion & Education Bureau, AIDS Community Education

# Gay ally Wellstone dies in plane crash; control of Senate in question

by Bob Roehr

U.S. Senator Paul Wellstone, the passionate, liberal Democrat from Minnesota, died when the small plane in which he was traveling crashed in bad weather Friday, October 25. Also killed were his wife, daughter, three staff members, and the two pilots. Wellstone had broken off campaigning for re-election to fly to the funeral of a supporter.

The former college professor, 58, had never held elective office when he upset incumbent Republican Rudy Boschwitz in 1990, despite being outspent 7 to 1. In February he announced that he had multiple sclerosis.

He never flagged in his support of liberal issues and was considered by some to be the most liberal member of the Senate. Over the years he learned to separate the personal from the political in the Senate. He came to appreciate the heartfelt convictions of conservative senators such as Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina) and was able to build cordial and often personal relationships across ideological chasms.

Wellstone was a solid supporter of gay issues, garnering near consistent 100 percent supportive



Senator Paul Wellstone

ratings from the Human Rights Campaign over the last several sessions of Congress, though he did vote to allow states to ban gays from marrying.

In a Senate debate in 1996, Wellstone called the Employment Non-Discrimination Act "a matter of simple justice... It is not right that a man or a woman, because of sexual orientation, should be in a situation where he or she could lose a job or not be able to obtain employment because of their sexual orientation. This is a basic civil right."

"America has lost a powerful eloquent and passionate voice for fairness," said HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch.

"Paul Wellstone was both a friend and a champion of the gay community," said Chad Johnson, executive director of National

Stonewall Democrats, expressing appreciation for the senator's "strong support for human rights."

Wellstone was locked in a tight re-election race but appeared to have pulled ahead in the last few weeks. Minnesota law allows the state Democratic Party to name a successor to the ballot in this instance. It is expected that former Senator and Vice President Walter Mondale will accept the party's request to run.

Still, the law does not allow for those who have already received absentee ballots to vote for the newly named candidate unless they show up to vote in person. That is likely to reduce the normal Democratic vote total by several thousand, perhaps tens of thousands of votes in that race. The provision may face legal challenge.

Whoever is elected is likely to be sworn in immediately to fill the vacancy. That could affect the Democrat's one vote control of the Senate, not simply for the next two years but also during the lame duck session that begins in mid-November.

The close Senate race in Missouri holds similar uncertainty. Democratic candidate Governor Mel Carnahan and his son died in a small plane crash in the closing weeks of the 2000 campaign, but his name remained on the ballot and he eked out a posthumous victory. His widow, Jean, was appointed to the seat and is running this year to fill out the remainder of the term. Should Jean Carnahan's Republican opponent, Jim Talent, win, he will immediately be sworn into office. ▼

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Equal Benefits Advocate Jeff Sheehy

(Partial list. \*Organizations listed for identification only)



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## New FDA head confirmed

by Bob Roehr

The Senate confirmed Mark B. McClellan to lead the Food and Drug Administration with a voice vote late on October 17 before adjourning. The position has been vacant since the start of the Bush administration in 2001. The agency has about 10,000 employees and regulates about a quarter of the nation's economy, including HIV drugs.

McClellan, 39, is a physician trained at Harvard Medical School, with a Ph.D. in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has taught both medicine and economics at Stanford University and most recently served as the first physician on the President's Council of Economic Advisers. His younger brother, Scott, is White House deputy press secretary.

The White House and Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts), who chairs the health committee that must approve FDA nominees, had deadlocked over other potential candidates but could agree on McClellan, a conservative with a reputation for fairness and not being a rigid ideologue.

"Dr. McClellan has the training, the experience, and the stature to serve as the head of the country's most important public health regulatory agency," said Kennedy. And with that blessing, the nomination, announced only on September 25, sailed through

the formal confirmation process.

The FDA has been pressed to review more drug applications at a more rapid pace, with no increase in staff. Sources said that it is a troubled agency with declining morale, an exodus of skilled employees to industry, and a workforce where one-third will become eligible to retire within the next five years.

While confirming McClellan, the Senate also passed legislation allowing industry to pay user fees to speed review of medical devices. The revenue will be used to hire additional FDA staff, and is patterned after a similar fee structure for drug review that has been in place for several years.

The FDA needs "to regain the sense of vision and purpose it had developed under David Kessler's leadership in the early to mid-1990s," said AIDS activist Martin Delaney with Project Inform.

"Since then, they have slowly become more conservative and rigid," Jules Levin shared that assessment. The executive director of the National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project criticized the FDA "for tightening up standards of what constitutes a [drug] failure." He said they "should loosen things up a bit" when it comes to evaluating efficacy, but not the safety of a drug submitted for approval.

Delaney sees two priorities for the FDA in the area of HIV. One is "to develop and communicate a

page 27 ►



# A RENEWED CASTRO: CLEAN. VIBRANT. POSSIBLE.

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- ◆ A residential neighborhood that is free from neglect and blight. Help for those in need without compromising the rights of others to enjoy quality of life.
- ◆ A neighborhood that is vibrant with places for public art, performance spaces, and creativity.

If you support our vision for a Castro renaissance, we urge you to vote for Bevan Dufty as our District 8 Supervisor.

We have worked with Bevan and know he has the passion, leadership, and experience to improve our neighborhood and represent our community.

Terrance Alan ◆ Patrick Batt, President Merchants of Upper Market and Castro\*

Gus Bean ◆ Greg Bronstein ◆ Trevor Hailey, 'Cruisin' the Castro'

Audrey Joseph, Club Universe ◆ Andre Normand

Gustavo Serina, President Eureka Valley Promotion Association\*

Empress Donna Sachet ◆ Bevin Shamel, *Gloss Magazine*

Jane Warner, San Francisco Patrol Special

\*Affiliations for identification purposes only.



## VOTE **BEVAN DUFTY** DISTRICT 8 SUPERVISOR



# Sweet hopes to unseat Daly

by Joe Dignan

**M**ichael Sweet is running for supervisor in District 6, one of San Francisco's poorest districts. Pacing in front of the Potrero Safeway store handing out literature on a sunny October Sunday, he looked like a typical middle-class shopper. Blue button down shirt. Slacks. His dark hair neatly trimmed. Conservative sun glasses.

He's slight, but when approached by a professional canvasser who told him he'd need a permit to pass out his flyers, Sweet returned sharply, "I read that case in law school - and I don't think so."

Sweet, 33, practices corporate litigation for a living. He has the methodical step-by-step approach to problem solving he said they teach in law school, but a lawyer's willingness to step right into a fight - as long as he thinks he can win.

Sweet is quick to quote one of his opponents in the race who

asked him, at a forum, "How can a white middle class lawyer from South Beach represent District 6?"

Sweet answers that he wants to represent what he calls "the whole district," which is generally the poorest in the city; but also has the most social and economic diversity.

"The district has people in SROs, people with fixed incomes in the Tenderloin, homeowners in the North of Market areas, loft dwellers in SOMA and the condo owners at Opera Plaza and the Four Seasons. I believe it's possible to represent all of those people."

"Because the main issues are absolutely the same for everyone. Homelessness and housing," he said.

As remedies to those problems, Sweet said he favors Gavin Newsom's Care Not Cash ballot initiative to reduce cash payments to general assistance recipients.

"As it is now, our contact with the homeless is when they pick up a check twice a month. We need to engage them and put them in con-

tact with social service providers," he said. "We need to help people move from worrying about how are they going to get through the night to what are they going to do for the rest of their lives."

"We also need to make a commitment to building housing," Sweet added.

He thinks developers should be allowed to build taller and more densely in the downtown areas to encourage people to live near where they work. He also thinks those developers should be made to include many below market rate units and retail stores in those buildings.

He likes Proposition R, Supervisor Tony Hall's plan to make condo conversions easier. Under that plan, after conversion of a building to condominiums, residents who chose not to buy could stay on at their current rents. But after those original tenants move out, the remaining rental units would be exempted from rent control - as if they were newly built apartments.

Sweet contends that opponents

of the measure, who say that it would cause displacement of low-income tenants, are wrong because the original tenants would have already moved out - voluntarily.

"I'm not just looking for rich people to vote for me," Sweet said. "I want to represent the whole district, and I believe it's possible." ▼

For more information, visit [www.sweetforsupervisor.org](http://www.sweetforsupervisor.org).



Candidate Michael Sweet

## Our Man Friday

◀ page 11

— Representative **Barney Frank** (D-Massachusetts) has no Republican opponent; Representative **Tammy Baldwin** (D-Wisconsin) has a Republican opponent running a somewhat homophobic campaign against her, but is considered safe in the liberal Madison-area district; and Representative **Jim Kolbe** (R-Arizona) is

considered a shoe-in for re-election in his Republican district.

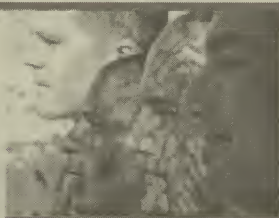
And **Mike Taylor**, the GOP nominee for U.S. Senate in Montana, who dropped out of the campaign (he was running nearly 20 percentage points behind Democratic incumbent **Max Baucus**) a couple of weeks ago because he complained that a campaign ad implied that he was a gay hairdresser, has returned to the campaign trail. Some Republicans privately admit the whole deal was a plot to draw some attention to his losing campaign.

We probably shouldn't expect to know next Wednesday morning who will control the next Congress. In fact, if Republicans lose a handful of House seats, the fate of their slim majority could come down to a special election in Hawaii, a party-switching drama expected in Texas, or a runoff election in Louisiana slated for December 7.

And finally, most of you have no doubt decided by now, but for those who haven't, here are my recommendations for Tuesday, November 5:

Governor: **Gray Davis**  
Lt. Governor: **Cruz Bustamante**  
Sec'y of State: **Kevin Shelley**  
Attorney General: **Bill Lockyer**  
State Treasurer: **Phil Angelides**  
Insurance Commissioner: **John Garamendi**  
Controller: **Steve Westly**  
Supt of Public Instruction: **Jack O'Connell**  
1st District Board of Equalization: **Carole Migden**  
U.S. Congress (Dist. 8): **Nancy Pelosi**  
State Assembly, Dist. 13: **Mark Leno**  
Dist. 6 (Marin): **Joe Nation**  
Dist. 14 (East Bay): **Loni Hancock**  
Dist. 15 (East Bay): **Donna Gerber**  
Dist. 27 (Santa Cruz): **John Laird**  
State Senate (Dist. 8): **Jackie Speier**  
BART Board (Dist. 8): **James Fang**  
S.F. Board of Supervisors: Dist. 2: **Gavin Newsom**  
Dist. 4: **Fiona Ma**  
Dist. 6: **Burke Strunsky**  
Dist. 8: **Bevan Duffy**  
Dist. 10: **Sophie Maxwell**  
S.F. Board of Education: **Daniel Guillory, Dan Kelly, Eddie Chin**  
S.F. Community College Board: **Lawrence Wong, Anita Greer, Johnnie L. Carter**  
Superior Court Judge #10: **Sean F. Connolly**  
State Propositions:  
Vote YES on Props. 46, 47, 48, 50  
Vote NO on Props. 49, 51, 52  
S.F. County Propositions:  
Vote YES on Props. B, C, E, F, G, H, I, J, L, N, P, R  
Vote NO on Props. A, D, K, O, Q  
Most importantly, vote as you please, but please vote on November 5. ▼

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[www.positiveforce-sf.org](http://www.positiveforce-sf.org)



# 'Mama' plays Santa this holiday season

by Zak Szymanski

The leather community is never short on charitable events, and this year, leather matriarch and former Pride Parade grand marshal Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt hopes to add one more tradition to the mix.

"Mama's toy drive," as it is has been dubbed, kicks off for the first time this weekend and continues through November and early December to benefit the kids of Sunburst Projects, which supports children and families living with HIV/AIDS.

On Sunday, November 3, at 12:30 p.m., at Club Rendez Vous, 1312 Polk Street, the community is invited to watch the San Francisco 49ers take on the Oakland Raiders on television, play pool, and enjoy half-time entertainment. Guests are asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy to the event.

On Sunday, November 10, from noon until 3 p.m., a "Sunday Morning S&M brunch" includes free food and a variety show at Marlena's, 488 Hayes Street, all for the price of a new unwrapped toy. Also on Sunday, at 5 p.m., a toy drive party featuring Renita Valdez and Diva La Fever will be held at Aunt Charlie's, 133 Turk Street.

Other toy drive events include "Doug's Drive" at the Edge, 4149 18th Street, on Saturday Novem-



Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt wants your toys.

ber 23, at a time to be announced; a "Boy's Toys" party, complete with strippers, on Sunday, November 24 at Daddy's, 440 Castro, from 5-8 p.m.; and "Tony Koester's 2002 Toys to Play with" at the Edge on Saturday, December 7, from 8-11 p.m.

This is the inaugural year of Mama's toy drive, but the tireless activist told the Bay Area Reporter

she plans to hold it annually.

"Last year I got a call and was told there weren't enough toys for the kids, but it was too late to do anything about it," said Reinhardt. "So I decided 2002 would be the year. All my boys have been helping me, and the community has really gotten into it, so we plan to continue it."

More than 1,200 toys have already been donated, according to Reinhardt, whose goal is to collect at least 2,002 toys for Christmas 2002. Toys will be delivered personally - via a rented truck and a handful of leather elves - to Project Sunburst, which offers a camp for kids with HIV/AIDS; childcare for parents with HIV/AIDS; emergency funding and food for families affected by HIV/AIDS; support groups; retreats; case management; education; and advocacy.

For more information on Sunburst, visit [www.sunburstprojects.org](http://www.sunburstprojects.org), and to find out more about the toy drive, go to [www.mamasfamily.org](http://www.mamasfamily.org). ▼

## FDA head

◀ page 24

clear method for evaluating immune-based therapies that reflects the activity of such drugs, rather than trying to make them fit the mold created for antiviral drugs." ▼

The second is "to create a better system for collecting data on side effects in the post-approval period."

Both advocates criticized the FDA for being slow to react to community concerns with the side effect of lipodystrophy that has come to be associated with the use of some HIV drugs. ▼

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The STOP Study is an observational study for people who want to STOP their HIV drug regimen (HAART) and receive close monitoring of their HIV progression through a clinical study.

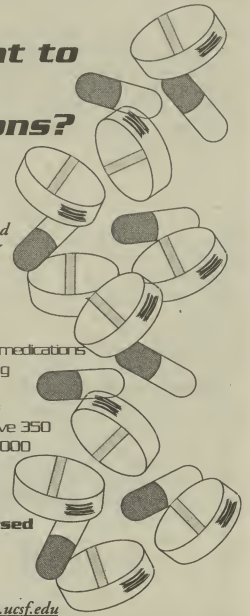
To qualify for this study:

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415-514-0550 ext. 358 or [actu@php.ucsf.edu](mailto:actu@php.ucsf.edu)



## The good news after the bad.

November 2, 1991

"Magic" Johnson  
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Today

When Magic discovered he was HIV-positive, his dreams began to fade. Now he's supporting AIDS Healthcare Foundation to restore the dreams of others living with HIV.

At AHF Healthcare Centers, we specialize in cutting-edge HIV treatment. It's all we do. And our services are available to anyone, regardless of your ability to pay.

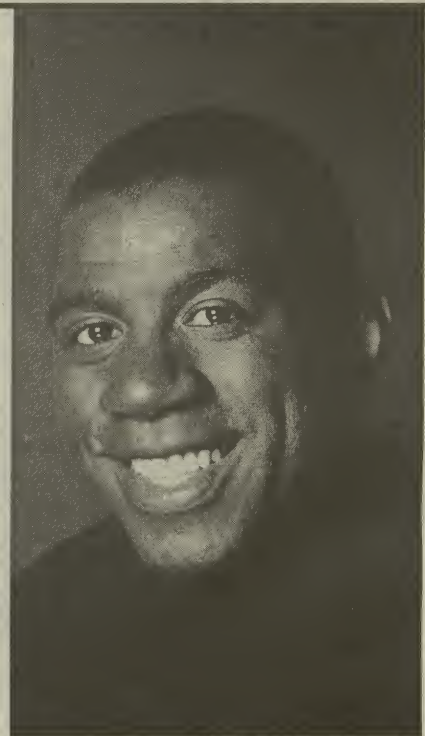
Take the next step. If you're HIV-positive or have questions about your HIV medical care, visit us at [www.aidshealth.org](http://www.aidshealth.org) or call 1-888-AIDS-CARE.

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West Adams • Westside LA • Whittier  
FLORIDA: Jacksonville NEW YORK: New York City





## Harry Hay

◀ page 1

in his career, talking about gay people as an entirely "separate gender" with what Roscoe called separate social functions, productive roles in society, and identities.

"We differ most from heterosexuals in how we perceive the world. That ability to offer insights and solutions is our contribution to humanity, and why our people keep reappearing over the millennia," Mr. Hay's biographer, Stuart Timmons, recounted that he often said.

And, Mr. Hay said, gay people bring special sensibilities to questions that straight people cannot manage. "Straight people say they're responsible for the stability of society," said John Burnside, Mr. Hay's partner of 39 years. "Gay people can be more self-expressive."

Mr. Hay's radicalism, going to the root or source, required undressing a problem, "like a child asking why the sky is blue. And continually asking, why, till you get to the end where you can't question any further," Burnside recalled.

That questioning spirit, Mr. Hay maintained, could allow gay people to learn and understand in ways that straight people cannot: to set aside claims of authority, and collect direct evidence.

That radical thinking, said Burnside, allowed Mr. Hay to make one of his most revelatory early connections: to say, in the 1950s, a time when gays were prohibited from congregating, when the American Psychiatric Association defined homosexuality as a mental illness, that homosexuals are an oppressed social minority,



Harry Hay, center, blew out the candles on his 90th birthday cake at an April 7 party at the LGBT Community Center. He was assisted by attending nurse Mark Garrett, partner John Burnside, and author Stuart Timmons. Some 200 well-wishers attended the party, enjoying memories and stories of Mr. Hay's many political activities. Mr. Hay died last week.

and like blacks, should behave like one.

In 1948 Mr. Hay wrote his manifesto for a society that he called "Bachelors Anonymous." The manifesto called for gay men to form into a secret society, with a cell structure analogous to a Masonic order or to the Communist Party, of which Mr. Hay was a member.

But it wasn't until November 1950 that he managed to provoke

enough interest in others to have the first meeting of a group, which was to become known as the Mattachine Society. The meeting took place at his home in Los Angeles.

The Mattachine movement grew, expanding with chapters across the country with thousands of members, especially after a success in defending one of its own, Dale Jennings, on what were ultimately dismissed as trumped-up solicitation charges.

But eventually Mattachine left Mr. Hay behind. New members of the organization wanted to shape it into a more public form, and wanted to distance it from its founders, Communist Party affiliations, and Mr. Hay.

### Longtime partner

Some of his friends say that the greatest triumph of Mr. Hay's life was his personal one with Burnside. Burnside and Mr. Hay met in 1963. "I had married when I met Harry, but started coming down to One Incorporated [a gay cultural center]. I was there helping to stuff envelopes," Burnside said.

"Harry came down talking about the idea that men could dance together. That we could repeat the tradition of square dance in the old west. He thought that the men could wear little fabric squares in their pockets to show if they were dancing the man's or the woman's part," Burnside said.

"Harry said later that he heard 'peals of silvery laughter' coming from the next room where I was working.

"We reverted to the very young period," Burnside recalled. Burnside was 47 and Mr. Hay was 51 when they met. "I was wearing a pair of red shorts that cupped my butt just so."

"But, by then your judgment of other people is pretty good," Burnside said. "We felt we were made for each other. We fitted each other so well physically. There was a deep pleasure in one another's being. I knew I was connected to a very fine person. We were, to quote Whitman, 'Two boys forever clinging.'"

"Occasionally, we'd have a spat. Your fierce side is often what makes you strong. But Harry always felt ashamed after one of those things. Harry was dogmatic, but he never told me what to do. Harry never told anyone what to think."

Added Burnside, "When Harry fell ill, I told him, 'If one of the boys stumbles, the other holds him up.' He always wanted to protect me. I'd tell him it was a pleasure to care for him. It took a long time, but he finally accepted that."

Mr. Hay's vigor as a thinker, according to Roscoe, may have alienated him from some of his compatriots.

Mr. Hay refused to speak for lesbians and bisexuals, Roscoe

said. "Gay men and lesbians have their own ways and values that are not necessarily the same," Roscoe said.

And Mr. Hay's Communist politics didn't endear him to everyone. Told that Mr. Hay lived to the age of 90, *Bay Area Reporter* publisher Bob Ross said, "He was groaning, carping, and complaining all the way."

But Cain said that Mr. Hay "was constantly looking for that extended circle of people that in hetero circles is called the family. That's where the faeries came from. Harry always said that 'the faeries were the dream I had when I started Mattachine.'"

Friend Jerry Berbiar recalled that when Mr. Hay realized "that the gay movement was being so assimilated into commercialism, he started the Radical Faeries."

"We didn't know who we were. All we had was the universal condemnation of others," said Burnside.

In 1979, Mr. Hay and the other Radical Faerie founders printed 400 posters calling a "conference" at an ashram near Bisbee, Arizona. They expected 30 to 40 attendees. An estimated 160 people showed up.

"We would meet in lovely places, in nature, away from society, a safe place," Burnside said. "The people who have come to the gatherings came looking to find themselves. They did, but they found each other too."

In a speech in 1990, Mr. Hay said that the first faerie gathering was an "instant centrifugal rush to connect — in loving and sharing with one another."

He recalled, in the same speech, that the Faerie movement, like Mattachine before it, was transformative. Up until then, Mr. Hay said, "we had been only perverted heteros, even in our own eyes." It allowed gay people to develop pride, "a positive, self-loving identity."

Mr. Hay's thinking laid the philosophical groundwork for the modern gay rights movement. So much so, that at his 90th birthday party at the LGBT community center in San Francisco earlier this year, the most quoted anecdote was about a young woman who approached Hay after a gay Pride Parade in New York City in the 1980s.

Burnside recalled that the parade had ended and that Hay had given a speech to the assembled crowd. There was, Burnside said, "the usual milling around." Burnside said the young lesbian woman came out of the crowd, walked up to Mr. Hay and said, simply and quietly, "Thank you for my life," and then disappeared back into the throng.

Mr. Hay is survived by two adopted daughters, Kate Berman and Hannah Muldavin, both of Los Angeles, his partner, John Burnside, of San Francisco, and what he called his "circle of loving companions" who cared for him since his move to San Francisco in 1999.

Memorials are planned for Saturday, November 23 at 2 p.m. at Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis Street, in San Francisco, and on Saturday, December 8 at 2 p.m. at One Institute and Archives, 909 West Adams Boulevard, in Los Angeles.

Contributions can be made to SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street, SF, CA 94102. Please mark the donations for Harry Hay. The money will be used to benefit the center's capital fund and to include Harry Hay and John Burnside's names on the founders' wall.

Mr. Hay's ashes will be scattered at the Nomenus fairy sanctuary in Wolf Creek, Oregon. ▼

# E, G, TINA AND ME

Gay Life and Stop AIDS present a community forum on club drugs, health, and sexual behavior among gay and bisexual men.

Local and national health educators will join with gay and bisexual men to discuss club drugs, HIV, and harm reduction.

Information presented by HIV Prevention Research Section of the SF DPH and Electric Dreams Foundation.

NOVEMBER 13TH

At the SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street, from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Refreshments & Coffee to be served.

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STOP AIDS PROJECT

Research Section AIDS Office San Francisco Department of Public Health

Electric Dreams Foundation

GAY LIFE

Gay Life, promoting gay men's sexual health and emotional well-being. Gay Life is a program of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

SF AIDS FOUNDATION

THE HIGHS & LOWS OF CLUB DRUGS

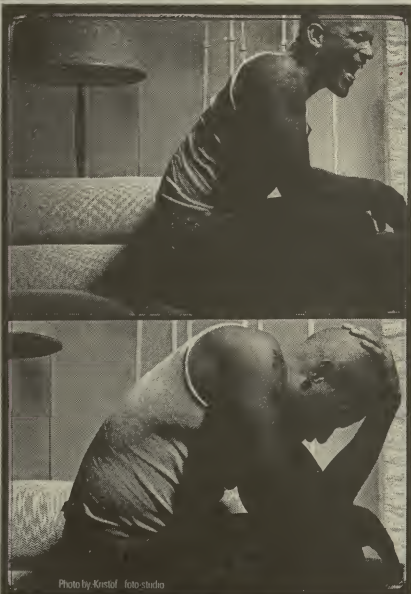


Photo by Kristof foto studio





# NIGHT SWEATS

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Don't get me wrong, I'm really glad to be alive, but

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# Thousands attend anti-war rally in SF

by David Ryan Alexander

Tens of thousands of demonstrators marched along Market Street Saturday, October 26 in protest of President Bush's plans for war with Iraq, including many members of the LGBT community and some recently formed LGBT organizations created specifically to protest Bush's plans.

Police estimated that about 40,000 people took part in the march and the rally, but organizers said there were closer to 80,000 participants, if not more. The rally began at Justin Herman Plaza and ended at the Civic Center.

One of the recently formed LGBT groups present was the Out Against the War Coalition, which consists of existing organizations such as the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, Queers Undermining Israeli Terrorism, and Lesbian and Gay Insurrection. Kevin Weaver, an organizer with OAWC, stated that the group provides "a chance for people who are queer to be a part of a visible contingent to express their discontent and to make a statement."

Weaver said that since the coalition was formed, after the bombing began in Afghanistan last fall, other members of the LGBT community and LGBT organizations have contacted them from across the country offering support, seeking information, and asking for advice on what has been successful for them in organizing. "There's not a lot of cohesion

across LGBT groups about physically opposing Bush's war machine," Weaver said. "We often see people who are queer who see us and it's very clear by the looks on their faces that they're happy to see us." According to Weaver, the goal is to bring a greater unity to the gay movement against war with Iraq.

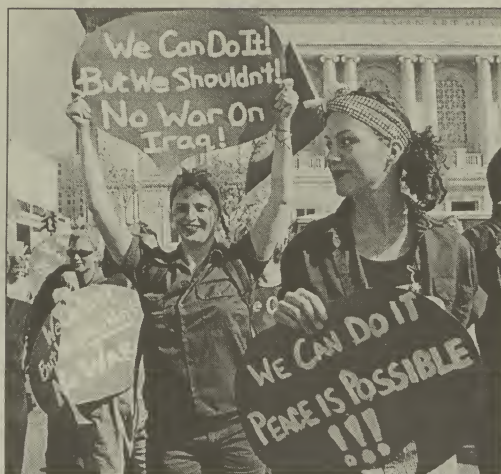
Deborah Gold of QUIT said that a lot of members of the LGBT community turned out to the event that so far have not been very active in expressing their anti-war opinions. For her, that is an even greater reason why they need to be out there rallying.

"They go to these demonstrations and see who's out there," she said. "It is an important opportunity for them to find organizations they can connect with against the war."

In addition to finding greater cohesion and making it known to the community that they exist, it is also important to make the general population aware of their support, said Tommi Avicoli Mecca, a longtime queer activist and Milk Club member.

"It's vital that we're there and we're recognized and that queers are counted among the numbers, because we've always been there," he said. "We're all in this together in our belief that war is wrong and must be stopped."

In fact it was difficult to find anyone on Saturday in support of going to war with Iraq. One person had a small sign that stated, "Saddam is evil and must be removed," but every other sign



Women in "Rosie the Riveter" dress were some of the thousands who attended Saturday's anti-war protest in San Francisco.

spoke out in varying ways and in varying languages, anywhere from "Unreasonable women for peace," to "No guerre."

It also served as a good precursor to Halloween for some. Several people were able to test out their elaborate costumes of larger-than-life skeletons carrying signs saying "No war," a couple of people were dressed as the Statue of Liberty in chains, and there were several Uncle Sams.

The rally was organized by Act Now to Stop War and End Racism (ANSWER) which also coordinat-

ed about 65 buses to bring people to the event from places such as Los Angeles, New Mexico, and Washington state. Numerous people even flew in from Texas for the event.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, gay rights and labor activist Howard Wallace, and Avicoli

Mecca all spoke at the rally, as well as U.S. Representative Barbara Lee (D-Oakland), and Green Party gubernatorial candidate Peter Camejo.

In Washington D.C., a similar event organized by the group attracted 200,000 demonstrators, ANSWER stated in a press release.

San Francisco Police Department spokeswoman Isobel Crowell said that there were no disturbances at the event and that no arrests were made. She could not state how many officers were present, but a police sergeant there on Saturday estimated that about 150 officers were there and made the comment, "It's not nearly enough."

The event purposefully took place on the first anniversary of the signing of the Patriot Act. The act, which was one of the first pieces of legislation to be passed after the September 11 terrorist attacks, has been criticized by many civil rights organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, as restricting many of the freedoms of the American people. Proponents have said that it is necessary for the war on terrorism.

ANSWER is now working on gathering 1 million signatures to be presented to government officials in Washington D.C. at the next protest, which is scheduled to coincide with the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday in January. ▼

## 'Jenny Jones' damage award overturned

United Press International

The Michigan Court of Appeals on Wednesday, October 23 overturned a \$29 million judgment against the producers of the *Jenny Jones* show, saying they had no obligation to protect guests from each other.

The 2-1 decision grew out of the case filed against Warner Brothers, the *Jenny Jones* show, and Telepictures by the family of Scott Amedure, who was shot to death by Jonathan Schmitz in March 1995 after the two appeared on a never-aired segment of the talk show dealing with secret crushes. Amedure revealed he had a crush on Schmitz.

"In sum, we conclude that defendants owed no duty as a matter of law to protect plaintiffs' decedent from the intentional criminal acts of a third party, Jonathan Schmitz, that occurred three days after the taping of the *Jenny Jones* show," the court wrote. "While defendants' actions in creating and producing this episode of the show may be regarded by many as the epitome of bad taste and sensationalism, such actions are, under the circumstances, insufficient to impute the requisite relationship between the parties that would give rise to a legally cognizable duty."

Schmitz was convicted of second-degree murder and is serving a 25- to 50-year sentence. During his trial he testified he was humiliated by the *Jenny Jones* appearance.

In their suit, Patricia Graves and Frank Amedure Sr. contended the defendants "ambushed" Schmitz, intentionally by withholding information that the show was about secret same-sex crushes. Schmitz had been under the impression a woman was involved.

Schmitz went to Amedure's home three days after the taping and shot him. The court cited earlier rulings that "there is no general duty to anticipate and prevent criminal activity even where ... there have been prior incidents."

Jenny Jones said she is "elated" by the court's ruling. "Scott Amedure's murder was a horrible tragedy, but I have always believed that it was fundamentally wrong and unfair to blame the show," Jones said in a statement. "I am thrilled that the court of appeals agreed that the show could not possibly have predicted and prevented this brutal crime."

In his dissenting opinion, Appellate Judge William B. Murphy said the defendants used "lies, deceit, sensationalism, and outrageous behavior" to play on emotions and "orchestrate a grand surprise for the benefit of its audience and ratings."

"Taking into consideration Schmitz's personal mental frailties and dangerous inclinations, those circumstances could lead reasonable jurors to draw different conclusions as to whether it was foreseeable that Schmitz would commit an act of violence against Amedure. Therefore, resolution by the jury was appropriate." ▼

## EXPLORING GAY RELATIONSHIPS



Photo by Kristof foto.studio.com

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Gay Life, promoting gay men's sexual health and emotional well-being. Gay Life is a program of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Gay Israeli ready to join Knesset

by David Ryan Alexander

The face of change for the LGBT community in Israel has long been that of 62-year-old chemistry professor Uzi Even. He has changed military policy, helped bring gay rights issues into the public conscience, and he and his partner have been the first gay couple in Israel to be recognized as foster parents.

But it doesn't end there. On Monday, November 4, Even (pronounced eh-veen) will also become the first openly gay member of the Knesset, or Israeli Parliament. In the past decade, he has been successful in winning many equal rights for gays and lesbians for the entire country of Israel, compared to the United States, where many of these same rights are still being fought in some of the most progressive states.

There has already been back-

lash from the Orthodox contingent of the Knesset regarding his appointment. They have called Even a disgrace, a danger to youth and morals, and some have even outwardly expressed that they will refuse to work with him. But regardless their opinions, he will still be sworn in as a representative of the leftist Meretz Party, replacing a lawmaker who is retiring.

Aside from his prolific career as a chemistry professor, he has been interested in politics for some time, and was simply on the top of the list to succeed the next representative to leave the party.

His arrival into the Knesset will undoubtedly bring even greater change into Israeli politics. For one thing, the chairman of the House Committee, Yossi Katz, has stated that he will make efforts to change the current policy regarding pension benefits for widows and widowers to include same-sex couples. Although it is not a dra-

matic change, Katz has expressed hope that this will create a precedent for workplaces in general, both public and private. This has also caused a furor among Orthodox members of the Knesset.

Even's achievements have resonated far beyond Israel and have been celebrated among Jewish gays and lesbians here in San Francisco as well.

"We've come such a long way," said Michal Goralsky, co-chair of the Israel committee for the gay and lesbian Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. "The Knesset is really run by the Orthodox, they can make or break you. Having an out gay man sitting in the Knesset right across from them is incredible."

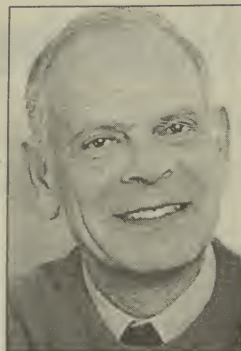
Even's struggle for gay rights began in 1983, while he was working in the military. After it was discovered that he was living with as man, he was fired from his position as a reserve intelligence officer and stripped of his ranking.

Approximately 10 years later Even appeared before a parliamentary subcommittee and gave an account of how he was mistreated in the military for being gay.

The news media quickly leapt on the story and Even's struggle became part of public conscience. Within three months military policies were changed, and gays and lesbians could no longer be discriminated against. Currently gays and lesbians are allowed to serve in all branches of the Israeli military openly and freely.

In 1994, at about the same time that these rights were being granted to gays and lesbians in the Israeli military, back in the United States, the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy was being implemented. Five years later, after a controversial court battle, England declared discrimination against gays and lesbians in its military a violation of basic human rights.

But these changes in policy for



Professor Uzi Even

the Israeli military were not the end of Even's gay rights activism. In 1995, he sued the university where he worked for spousal rights for his partner, Amit Kama, and won. He also adopted a 16-year-old boy, who was reportedly rejected from his family for being homosexual. After an agreement was reached by the boy's biological family and social welfare workers, Even and Kama became the first recognized gay foster parents in Israel.

Now that he is about to become a member of the Knesset, Even has stated that he will fight for even greater equal rights for gays and lesbians. On the top of his list is legal recognition of same-sex couples and families, which will provide similar benefits to those received by heterosexual couples, such as welfare. ▼

## UCSF ends enrollment in its PEP study

by Matthew S. Bajko

Individuals who place themselves at risk for HIV through high-risk sex or injection drug use will no longer be able to receive free treatment through the PEP 2 (post-exposure prevention/prophylaxis) study at the Positive Health Program at the University of California, San Francisco.

As of November 1, UCSF researchers will no longer accept new clients to the study, which examines the effectiveness of providing antiretroviral medication to individuals within days of their exposure to the HIV virus. Those individuals already enrolled in the study will continue to receive follow-up treatment.

"We appreciate the community support we have received in completing accrual to our first two PEP studies and regret the changes in services that are necessary as the study progresses at this time. We do hope to develop and obtain funding for 'PEP 3' in the next year or so, so please stay tuned," wrote Dr. Michelle Roland, assistant professor of medicine at UCSF and the principal investigator for the PEP study, in an October 10 letter to health care providers.

For those individuals looking for PEP services, the treatment will continue to be available at San Francisco City Clinic during the week, and in the San Francisco General Hospital Acute Care Clinic on weekends and holidays. However, unlike the PEP study at UCSF, these services will not come for free.

While there are no charges for clinical services at City Clinic, the PEP medications will average \$640 for a 28-day course. Clients can use insurance, self-pay, or register at SFGH for a sliding scale Community Health Network prescription card if they are a San Francisco County resident with proof of residency and income. The card can be used at most local pharmacies. Services at the SFGH Acute Care Clinic are also subject to charges and sliding scale payments are available for eligible clients.

For PEP information at San Francisco City Clinic, call (415)

487-5538. The clinic - which is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; from 1 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays; and from 1 to 4 p.m. Thursdays - is located at 356 7th Street, between Folsom and Harrison. Clients should arrive to the clinic at least one hour prior to closing for PEP services.

Individuals who have exposures on weekends and holidays

can seek initial PEP services at the SFGH Acute Care Clinic located on 6M66 in the main hospital, 1001 Potrero Avenue. SFGH Acute Care Clinic is open from noon to 7 p.m. on weekends and holidays. The Acute Care Clinic requests clients arrive for PEP services as close to noon as possible and to expect a wait. A prescription for a starter pack of medications will be pro-

vided if indicated and clients will be instructed to follow-up the next business day at City Clinic for testing, counseling, and additional medications.

The criteria for prescribing PEP are slightly more restrictive at City Clinic than they were in the study and people should call the City Clinic PEP line (415-487-5538) if they have further questions. ▼

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# New drugs on tap for HIV and hepatitis

by Liz Highleyman

**T**he Food and Drug Administration recently approved two new drugs for viral hepatitis, and a new HIV drug has been granted priority review. In addition, two drug companies are making medications available for free.

On October 16 the FDA approved Pegasys brand pegylated interferon, manufactured by Hoffmann-La Roche, for the treatment of hepatitis C. Studies have shown that Pegasys in combination with ribavirin is more effective than standard interferon. Pegylated interferon is chemically altered to last longer in the body and can be injected once weekly, compared to three times weekly for standard interferon. Another brand of pegylated interferon, Schering-Plough's Peg-Intron, has been available since August 2001.

Roche is currently seeking approval for its brand of ribavirin, called Copegus. Currently only Schering-Plough's Rebetol brand is approved, and is marketed in a bundled kit with Peg-Intron. Roche also hopes to sell Pegasys and Copegus as a kit.

In announcing the approval of Pegasys, Roche said it would provide a free, 12-week sample for the first 15,000 patients who start treatment before December 31; there are no income requirements. Doctors can call 877-PEGASYS (734-2797) to request the samples for their patients.

In September the FDA approved adefovir to treat hepatitis

B. Adefovir (then called Preveon) was originally developed as an anti-HIV drug, but was never approved because studies showed that it caused kidney damage. Adefovir for hepatitis B — to be marketed under the name Hepsera — is used in lower doses and has fewer side effects.

Last week the Boehringer Ingelheim Cares Foundation announced it would provide its anti-HIV drug nevirapine (Viramune) free to low-income, uninsured U.S. residents; the program is for individuals with annual incomes below \$25,000 or families with incomes below \$40,000. Two summers ago the company agreed to provide the drug free to women in developing countries to help pre-

vent mother-to-child HIV transmission. Since then, activists have criticized the government of South Africa for being slow to take up the offer. For more information on the U.S. patient assistance

jointly by Trimeris and Roche, will be sold under the brand name Fuzeon. Results presented at the International AIDS Conference in Barcelona in July showed that T-20 reduced HIV viral loads and in-

difficult to manufacture, it is expected to be one of the most expensive anti-HIV drugs ever — as much as \$10,000-15,000 per year.

The full FDA is expected to make a decision on T-20 by March 2003. In the meantime, Trimeris and Roche have started a new compassionate use program to provide the drug for free to 1,200 people worldwide (about 600 in the U.S.) who have experienced treatment failure with other anti-HIV drugs. Due to a high demand, U.S. registration has already closed. Treatment advocates have called on Trimeris and Roche to make more of the drug available, but the companies say that manufacturing capacity is limited. ▼

## Results presented at the Intern'l AIDS Conference ... showed that T-20 reduced HIV viral loads.

program, call (800) 556-8317.

Finally, on October 11 the FDA granted priority review status for T-20 (generically known as enfuvirtide), the first HIV entry or fusion inhibitor. The drug, developed

creased CD4 cell counts in people who had developed resistance to other anti-HIV drugs. T-20 so far appears to cause minor side effects, but must be painstakingly prepared and injected. Because it is

# General's promotion delayed

by Bob Roehr

**T**he promotion of General Robert T. Clark has stalled in the Senate Armed Services Committee, though it is unclear exactly what is happening behind the closed-door sessions. Clark was the commanding general at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, when Private First Class Barry Winchell was murdered in his sleep in a gay bashing.

"In the wake of Winchell's murder, General Clark demonstrated the poorest leadership, is-

suing no statements against harassment, refusing to speak with or meet the parents of PFC Winchell, or to reassure base soldiers that harassment would not be tolerated," said C. Dixon Osburn, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

In the months following the 1998 murder, SLDN received scores of calls from gay service members at Fort Campbell. More than 200 soldiers were discharged from the base under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" over the remainder of the year, most voluntarily so because they

feared for their own safety.

Women's groups also are opposing the promotion because of four high-profile domestic abuse homicides that occurred at Fort Campbell under Clark's command.

The Miles Foundation tracks incidence of domestic violence in the military. Executive Director Christine Hansen said they have "serious concerns as to the command climate that [Clark] established."

Kathy Spence, mother of one of the murdered women, told the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, "How can you promote someone who is supposed to protect the country when they can't even protect our daughters?"

SLDN asked the committee, chaired by Senator Carl Levin (D-Michigan), to hold an open hearing on the nomination for promotion, usually standard procedure. But the committee declined to do so at either its October 11 session where no quorum was present, or again when it met on October 16.

Winchell's mother, Patricia Kutteles, was outside the committee room last week, to ask to speak before it. "I'm here for my son, and for every mother's child," she said in a written statement. "Our children's tomorrow depends on this committee's leadership today."

But the senators slipped in through another entrance and Kutteles did not have an opportu-

nity to speak with them, said SLDN spokesman Steve Ralls.

If the opposition has not stopped Clark's promotion, at least it has slowed it down for the moment. The committee reported out 331 non-controversial promotions on October 16 but took no action on Clark or one other officer. The committee and ultimately the full Senate likely will address the promotion again when they return for a lame duck session in mid-November.

Ralls said SLDN appreciates the extra time to lobby senators. SLDN and the Human Rights Campaign are among the groups urging citizens to contact their senators and urge them to hold an open hearing on Clark's promotion, and hopefully to oppose it.

Democratic members of the committee include Levin, Ted Kennedy (Massachusetts), Joe Lieberman (Connecticut), Max Cleland (Georgia), Mary Landrieu (Louisiana), Daniel Akaka (Hawaii), Mark Dayton (Minnesota), Jeff Bingaman (New Mexico), and Kutteles's own senator, Jean Carnahan (Missouri).

Those on the Republican side of the aisle include ranking member John Warner (Virginia) and Susan Collins (Maine).

Should it pass the committee, just one senator can place a hold on any nomination and likely delay it until the next session of Congress. ▼

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# HIV drug and money boondoggles abroad and in the U.S.

by Bob Roehr

Efforts to get HIV drugs to developing nations got a kick in the teeth with news that perhaps a quarter of the drugs Epivir, Combivir, and Trizivir that have been shipped to Africa have been hijacked and sold in Europe. The drugs had been donated by the manufacturer GlaxoSmithKline for use in western Africa and are worth about \$28 million.

The *Washington Post* reported earlier this month that at least some of the drugs were shipped to Africa but never made it out of the airport before being diverted and flown back to Europe. Middlemen then allegedly sold the drugs through normal distribution channels, primarily to pharmacies in Germany and the Netherlands.

According to internal company documents that the newspaper obtained, the diversion of medicines apparently had been going on since at least July 2001 but had been discovered only recently.

The drugs shipped to Africa look the same and have the same packaging as those sold in Europe and the only way one can distinguish between them is by lot number. Glaxo is considering changing both the appearance of the pills and their packaging for medicines that they donate or sell at low cost.

The losers are African patients, who did not receive the donated medicines, and Glaxo, which lost millions of dollars in sales in Europe.

No arrests have been made and investigations continue in several nations. Dutch officials have recalled some of the illegally reimported drug lots.

In Uganda, health ministry officials have discovered that an unknown quantity of the anti-fungal drug Diflucan, donated by Pfizer to treat HIV-associated opportunistic infections, has been diverted and is being sold on the open market in Uganda.

Meanwhile, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria is seeking an additional \$2 billion in donations for its programs.

## HHS junkies

How much did it cost to attend the International AIDS Conference in Barcelona last July? If you are the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, about \$3.6 million.

The figure came to light when 28 conservative Republican congressmen signed on to a July 17 letter to HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson asking for details about the conference. The \$3.6 million paid for 236 employees to attend the conference. That works out to slightly more than \$15,000 per person, about the cost of HIV drugs for one person for one full year in the U.S.

Attendees came from the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and the secretary's office. Thompson himself went to Barcelona, heading up a senior level delegation. But the

number does not include people from both the developing world and U.S. AIDS organizations who may have attended the conference with HHS grant support.

In a follow-up letter to Thompson, sent on October 10, the congressmen reacted to the information, calling the amount spent "astonishing...[it] appears extremely excessive. We are concerned that rather than an isolated incident, there seems to be a pattern of largess with conferences and trips by bureaucrats." They did acknowledge the need for some employees to attend some conferences.

"Would not the \$3.6 million spent on this single AIDS conference have been better spent providing medicine to the hundreds

of Americans with HIV who lack access to medical care or in supporting research for an HIV vaccine or cure?"

It suggested that cutting down on conference delegations "could result in real differences for real people if these resources were reprioritized properly."

The congressmen also asked Thompson for "the total amount the Department spends annually on financing conferences in direct or indirect support and what, if any, restrictions have been placed on conference attendance by HHS employees."

Finally, they asked that representatives from faith-based organizations be included in future delegations to AIDS conferences. ▽

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## FREE EVENTS



### First Fridays

for HIV-negative men

Friday, November 1, 7pm

Castro Community Space, 501 Castro St @ 18th St



Join other HIV-guys for an evening of socializing and support in staying healthy.

### One Size Does Not Fit All

for all gay/bi/trans men

Thursday, November 7, 7pm

STOP AIDS Project, 2128 15th St @ Market St



Here's a chance to see what's available in latex without the glaring lights of your local drug store. A variety of condom demonstrations included!

### TrannyFags presents:

### What is Masculinity?

for FTMs and transmen

Thursday, November 14, 7pm

STOP AIDS Project, 2128 15th St @ Market St



Where do we find our examples of what a "real man" is like? Share your experiences with others from all over the FTM spectrum.

### TrannyFags presents:

### Strangers in the Night

for FTMs and transmen

Thursday, November 21, 7pm

STOP AIDS Project, 2128 15th St @ Market St

Do most of your sexual encounters with men take place in the dark at parks and sex clubs? A chance to get real about our sex lives and to learn how to have fun and stay safe.



### In Our Prime presents:

### Sunday Social

for older men and their friends

Sunday, November 17, 4pm

Ellard Hall, 100 Diamond St @ 18th St

Join In Our Prime and Midlife Gay Men for our monthly get-together. Meet new friends and learn how others are staying safe in midlife and maturity. ADA accessible.

## don't miss out on the Great Sex Workshop

Wednesdays at 7pm

STOP AIDS Project, 2128 15th St @ Market St

for all gay/bi/trans men



### November 6

### #1: Imagine and Negotiate

Remember the hottest sex you've had? Come talk about what makes our favorite experiences so damn hot! Learn ways to get what you want from sex while staying safe.



### November 13

### #2: Intimacy and Mr. Right

Get ready for some fun, interactive, clothes-on intimacy games to help you keep sex safe and hot! Then, share your techniques for finding Mr. Right in this man-eat-man world.



### November 20

### #3: Flirt, Date and Score

All of our cruising skills could use a little fine-tuning. Come share pick-up strategies, tips for negotiating safe sex and talk about what you are looking for in a date. Join the fun!



### November 27

### #4: Different Strokes

Whether we're choking the chicken or beating the meat, how do we pleasure our partners and ourselves? Join this exploration of the joys of JO – the safest sex known to man!

For more information on our events, visit [stopaids.org](http://stopaids.org) or call us at 415.575.0155.



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Race to the finish in track competition, Gay Games IV

## Sports Complex

◀ page 19

bow flag), the other dissenting and political. Everybody gets along in Central Park. Sir Ian McKellen hails a sold-out Shea Stadium of athletes, choirs, and fans to "just call me Sirena."

## Gay Games V

Amsterdam, Holland, August 1-8, 1998  
14,000 participants; 32 sports

A record number of Europeans train for, and take trains to, the most nationally diverse Games ever. Americans and Germans scoop up the majority of medals. But, as the U.K. South Bank University archive reports, "Not very much was reported on the sporting endeavors."



## Sports Complex

## Gay Games VI

Sydney, Australia, November 2-9, 2002  
12,000 participants; 29 sports

People from 70 countries have saved up, fundraised, trained for and have landed for a week of serious sports and certainly a lot of parties, be they high-priced or spontaneous, in and near the site of the 2000 summer Olympics.

Australian and Federation of Gay Games board members do the revolving door power dance a few times. Travel costs and a November schedule are cited as conflicts for some. A closure of six Aussie gay papers, and Mardi Gras' near-collapse, don't look good. With terrorist catastrophes in 2001 in the U.S., and in nearby Bali only weeks before the event, the Games registra-



Skating competitors at Gay Games V

Skaters endure a soap opera of bureaucratic posturing with medals withheld. Controversies include age category changes and a lack of experienced officials in some sports. The ousted director, Mark Janssens, practically runs off with Games funds through Amsterdam canals on a speedboat. The finance mystery is later cryptically settled by local councils. Australia pledges improvements across the board.

tion numbers fall short by a few thousand. The last-minute money crunch happens again, but is made more public, and somewhat resolved.

Australia's popular sport, rugby, is finally added. Included on the roster is the Fog, the San Francisco team that once included 9/11 hero Mark Bingham.

## Rebirth and repeat medalists

Among the new teams this year, the San Francisco lesbian Lexington Club will sponsor a recreational C League women's basketball team, which includes a Los Angeles resident and one Australian. The multi-country teams take place in bigger numbers this year in several sports.

Team rep Julie Lane, who hails from Omaha, Nebraska, said, "A few of us had gone to Amsterdam in flag football so we decided to play basketball. We've played in leagues non-stop since then." It'll be non-stop in Sydney, with seven games in five days.

Dave Karraker started playing volleyball in 1991. In Los Angeles. It's his third Gay Games with the San Francisco GAPA Godzilla.



The late Tom Waddell

Eight players are going, along with one Australian who'll join them there. Karraker remembers Amsterdam as "welcoming competitors with open arms, the bus drivers, they had stickers and buttons and hats, having met athletes from Czechoslovakia and Morocco."

"It's much tougher this year because of expenses," he said, "So it's hard to get people to commit." Karraker estimates a shortage of European and, surprisingly, Australian teams, making 12 mostly U.S. squads, and one each from Canada, Thailand, and Germany.

But with repeated financial crises marring the growing athletic event, some wonder how a huge sports event will evolve. With ample government funds secured, Montreal assures us so for 2006. Yet, so have others.

Two members of the San Francisco track and field team, which included Games founder Waddell, have won medals in each Games.

Rick Thoman, a six-time track competitor, has seen a gradual shift from collaborative events to corporate financial entities, and wonders about its course.

"Just to register costs a few hundred dollars," he said. "With equipment, and travel, you need sponsors." While some teams do get donations, and raise thousands, he's concerned about the many who are economically cut from attending.

For Carmen Morrison, a runner and sprinter who sacrificed a high profile sports equipment endorsement after coming out, missing the 20th anniversary wasn't an option. She's been to every Games, and has run in track events since 1982. Morrison recalls Waddell's "very convincing speeches to get us to compete, like a sermon in a church."

Yet she's aware of the limitations that lead many worthy athletes away. Having the temerity to come out while competing is often difficult. When scholarship funds aren't locally made available for younger kids, or even multi-medal-winning athletes, she wonders, "Who will be able to go this time, or the next time?"

Mostly, only those who can afford it will attend. Events have almost completely filled up or sold out of tickets, including the Physique contest, where the vascular likes of porn model Matthew Rush, currently from Ohio, will compete. Also in Physique, George Birimisa has a new age group, 70-80, and a few competitors.

November 1 would have been Tom Waddell's 65th birthday.

Twenty years old, the torch ignites again on November 2. ▼



## CLASSIFIEDS

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

#### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

San Francisco is seeking Statements of Qualifications from consultants with experience in implementing business district revitalization in the state of California to broaden the use of Business Improvement Districts (BID) in the City and County of San Francisco. A maximum of \$10,000 has been identified for the consulting services specific to the BID project. The final product of this contract will be in the form of a written report and could include presentations to the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, City Departments, Committees, and community groups.

Responses to the RFQ are due November 12, 2002 5:00 PM. Each candidate shall submit 2 copies not to exceed a total of five pages summarizing:

Name of firm, principals, employees, etc.

Statement of work experience, including summary of qualifications

Materials should be placed in a sealed envelope and marked to the attention of Leamon Abrams, Mayor's Office of Economic Development, 1 Dr. Carlton Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 436, San Francisco, CA 94102-4653. No faxed submissions.

Inquires regarding the RFQ must be directed to Leamon Abrams at (415) 554-6969.

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

The Port of San Francisco is seeking proposals from qualified professional firms

who are interested in contracting to provide Security Assessment Services for the 7.5 miles of Port waterfront property. The RFP will be made available on October 28, 2002, on which date it may be obtained on line at <http://www.sfport.com> or in person from the Port office, located at Pier 1, The Embarcadero, San Francisco. The Port will host a pre-proposal conference on November 14, 2002. Responses to the RFP must be delivered to the Port by November 27, 2002. For further information, contact the Port of San Francisco at 415-274-0400.

9977 Parent & Community Involvement Coordinator

This position serves as a liaison between the San Francisco Unified School District and parents with regard to outreach services. Under direction, develops, organizes and evaluates a comprehensive program to improve and increase parent and community involvement in the School District. The incumbent works to enlist and engage in program activities parents who are linguistically and culturally diverse. The incumbent will also investigate complaints related to specific program issues from parents and the community; may direct the work of clerical and paraprofessional staff. Salary range: \$40,794-\$49,426 annually

#### Minimum Qualifications:

Two (2) years of college-level coursework in education, health education, outdoor education, social sciences, environmental science or a closely related field. (30 semester units or 45 quarter units equal one year); and Three (3) years of verifiable experience (one year = 2000 hours) working in the community with culturally, ethnically and socio-economically diverse populations, preferably in a school district setting. Such experience should include program or activities planning and coordination.

Apply online at: [HYPERLINK "http://www.sfusd.edu"](http://www.sfusd.edu) www.sfusd.edu. Be sure to submit: Resume, three references, and the application.

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### City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services Solicitation of Interest #208

Dear Potential Applicant: The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services (SDHS) announces its intent to solicit interest from individuals or organizations interested in extending advocacy services to Social Security Income Pending clients during the initial and reconsideration level of the Social Security Disability application process. The goal of the program is to establish a referral system between the County Adult Assistance Program and qualified organizations and individuals. Advocates will be paid on a contingent fee arrangement depending on number of clients served. An SOI document may be picked up at SDHS, Office of Contract Management, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 300, Wednesday, October 23, 2002. Office hours are from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. The SOI document may be downloaded from the City's website on or after October 23, 2002. Go to [HTTP://www.sfnetsci.sfga.us/PBIDS.NSF](http://www.sfnetsci.sfga.us/PBIDS.NSF) and click on the "Consultants and Professional Services" link. The informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2002, from 9:30am-11:30am at 1235 Mission St., 2nd Floor, Training Unit Rm 4, San Francisco, CA 94103. Attendance is Mandatory. For further information, call Tom Neill, at (415) 558-1375, or Esperanza Zapien, Contract Manager, at (415) 557-5657, 10/31/02. CNS-459907#  
BAY AREA REPORTER

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261246-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Poseidon Construction, 495 Golden Gate Avenue Apt. #303, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ante Vljajcic. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 30, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/30/2002.  
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 02-540472

In the Matter of the Application of Dawn Marie Weinschrott. For change of Name. The application of Dawn Marie Weinschrott for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Dawn Marie Weinschrott has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Dawn Marie Weinschrott Revilla. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 05 day of December at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002



#### STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 236603

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Baldoria Restaurant. Located at: 2162 Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business was conducted by a corporation signed Fabrizio Laudani, president. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: November 30, 1999.  
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Decruz Dolores Munoz, Cruz Otto. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 3481 18th Street San Francisco, Ca. 94110. Type of license Applied for:  
41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE  
OCTOBER 17, 24, 31, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261560-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: All About Children. 1412 Noriega Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Edward Romanov and Janet Romanov. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 10, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/11/2002.  
OCT. 17, 24, 31, NOV 7, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261345-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: In And Out Plumbing, 3830 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ater Abbas. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 04, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/03/2002.  
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261305-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Baldoria Trattoria, 2162 Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Paolo Galli, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 01, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/01/2002.  
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261318-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Thai Place 2, 312 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Nopakun Ouitayakul. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 02, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/02/2002.  
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261322-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Amazing, 5151 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Chaoming Guan and Meiling Chen. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 02, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/02/2002.  
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261196-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The New Black, 2120 Bryant Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Scott J. Owens Jr. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/26/2002.  
OCT. 24, 31, NOV 7, 14, 2002

## LEGAL NOTICES

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261306-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Hostcast, 1690 Bay Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by limited liability corporation signed Angel Lance, owner, manager, member. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 12, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/02/2002.  
OCT. 24, 31, NOV 7, 14, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261755-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Rosie's Florist, 1155 Market Street San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Everardo Duenas. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 22, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/22/2002.  
OCT. 24, 31, NOV 7, 14, 2002

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Angeleri Antonello and Angeleri Janie. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 641 Vallejo Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. Type of license Applied for:  
41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE  
OCTOBER 24, 31, NOV. 7, 2002

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Confusion Boredom LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, Suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 2801 24th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. Type of license Applied for:  
41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE  
OCT. 31, NOV. 7, 14, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0261759-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Leather Navigator Media, 3955 17th Street #4, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Thomas A. Van Den Broeck. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 1, 1996. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/22/2002.  
OCT. 31, NOV 7, 14, 21, 2002

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 02-540475

In the Matter of the Application of Tamara Rose Marie Berry For change of Name. The application of Tamara Rose Marie Berry for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Tamara Rose Marie Berry has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Tamara Rose Marie Broussard. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 09 day of December at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

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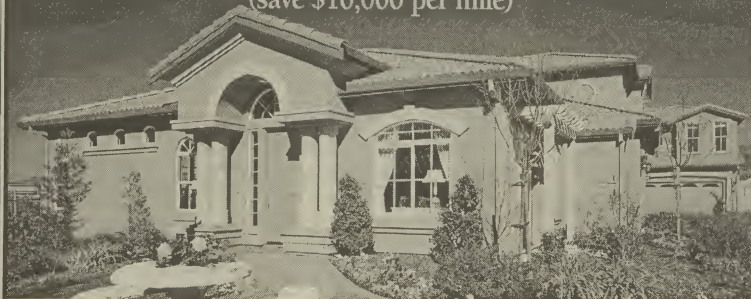
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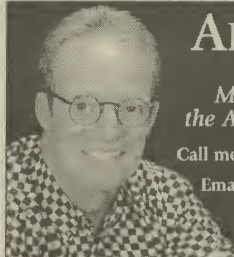
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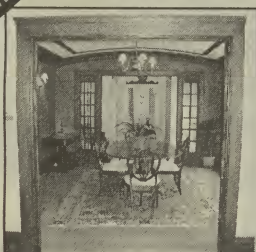
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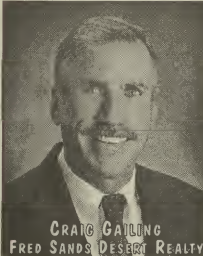
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E18

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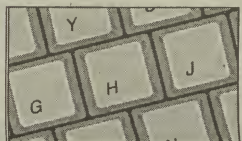
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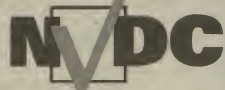
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State Assembly, 13th District

**Mark Leno**



Secretary of State

**Kevin Shelley**



State Controller **Steve Westly**

Insurance Commissioner **John Garamendi**

Attorney General **Bill Lockyer**

Treasurer **Phil Angelides**

State Board of Equalization

**Carole Migden**



Supt. of Public Instruction **Jack O'Connell**

### State Propositions

<b>46</b> Housing & Emergency Shelter Bonds	<b>YES</b>
<b>47</b> Public Education Facilities Bonds	<b>YES</b>
<b>48</b> Court Consolidation Upgrade	<b>YES</b>
<b>49</b> Before & After School Program Lock-ins	<b>NO</b>
<b>50</b> Water Quality, Supply, & Safe Drinking Water Projects	<b>YES</b>
<b>51</b> Reallocation of Motor Vehicle Taxes to Highway & Other Projects	<b>NO</b>
<b>52</b> Election Day Voter Registration	<b>YES</b>

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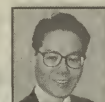
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**Anita Grier**



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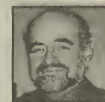
### Board of Education



**Eddie Chin**



**Daniel Guillory**



**Daniel Kelly**

### Local Propositions

<b>A</b> Hetch Hetchy Water System Bonds	<b>YES</b>
<b>B</b> Affordable Housing Bonds	<b>YES</b>
<b>C</b> War Memorial Veterans Building Bonds	<b>YES</b>
<b>D</b> Energy Self-Sufficiency / Public Power	<b>YES</b>
<b>E</b> Ending Water & Sewer Rate Freeze	<b>YES</b>
<b>F</b> Entertainment Commission	<b>YES</b>
<b>G</b> Assistance to Elections Department	<b>YES</b>
<b>H</b> Police & Firefighters Retirement Benefits	<b>YES</b>
<b>I</b> City Employees Paid Parental Leave	<b>YES</b>
<b>J</b> Full-time Supervisors	<b>YES</b>
<b>K</b> Selection of Newspaper for Public Notices	<b>YES</b>
<b>L</b> Real Property Transfer Tax Increase	<b>YES</b>
<b>M</b> City Economic Development Plan	<b>NO</b>
<b>N</b> "Care not Cash" / Changes in Homeless Assistance	<b>NO</b>
<b>O</b> "Exits from Homelessness" / Housing & Drug Treatment Programs	<b>NO</b>
<b>P</b> Public Utilities Revenue Bond Oversight Committee	<b>NO</b>
<b>Q</b> Prohibition of City Funds for Political Activity	<b>YES</b>
<b>R</b> "HOPE" / Conversion of Rental Units to Condominiums	<b>NO</b>
<b>S</b> Program for Medical Cannabis	<b>YES</b>



When genius philosophers attack  
Karl Popper vs. Ludwig Wittgenstein in a  
Cambridge fight featuring red-hot poker.  
page 52

Mommie dearest?  
Answering Christina in  
new Joan Crawford bio.  
page 56



Daddy dearest?  
Gay men on their fathers  
in 'Man I Might Become.'  
page 53



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 32 • No. 44 • 31 October 2002

## Seduced by Frida Kahlo

Famed bisexual artist gets the full biopic treatment in 'Frida'



by Will Shank

It is not news that the artist biopic is one of the most difficult movie forms of all, and attempts at this genre have rarely succeeded. Either you have a truthful version so dour that it is painful to watch (Altman's *Vincent and Theo*), or you have a Hollywood glossy so noble that it's laughable (Chuck Heston as Michelangelo in *The Agony and the Ecstasy*). In-between is the movie that tries to have it all, like last year's *Pollock*, or the Fran-

cis Bacon story, *Love is the Devil*. Both of those films had the inherent flaw of a main character so self-involved and unlikable that you had to peer around the central artist to see the merits of the rest of the filmmaker's efforts.

*Frida*, opening Friday, suffers from the opposite syndrome. Salma Hayek has created an artist so perfect, and even in her sins, so forgivable, that she could be Saint Frida. Hayek is also so beautiful and so watchable that she carries the film on her slim shoulders. It should also be noted that her breasts, both draped and

exposed, are featured so prominently that they could be nominated for an Academy Award as best supporting actress.

Frida Kahlo, little acknowledged in her lifetime as more than a Sunday painter, or "La Señora Rivera," has become a cult figure for feminists, lesbians, and all artists of a left-leaning bent. Her tragic life began with childhood polio, and she was tortured eternally by the effects of a horrific streetcar accident which prevented her from bearing children. Although

page 49 ►

## 'The Pinochet Case' & 'The Trials of Henry Kissinger' at Castro Theatre

Former Chilean dictator  
Augusto Pinochet in  
*The Pinochet Case*



## Blood on their hands

by David Lamble

Chilean filmmaker Patricio Guzman's *The Pinochet Case* is a riveting two-hour cat-and-mouse game about the 1998 London house arrest of General Augusto Pinochet, contrasted with a passion play of interviews with the victims and survivors of the former dictator's 17-year campaign to eradi-

cate Chile's political left. Guzman, who as a young leftist filmmaker slipped into exile (avoiding the deadly fate of a cameraman), is revered for his opus *The Battle of Chile*, which presents the coup overthrowing Salvador Allende and Pinochet's murderous campaign against the left like acts of an opera. Pinochet stole tricks from the Nazis, making his enemies disappear, while destroying their hu-

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by Roberto Friedman  
and Pacific O'Shawn

Gay British composer Benjamin Britten was an ardent pacifist all his life, and by a pleasing serendipity of the schedule, the San Francisco Symphony performed his *War Requiem* last weekend, with Kurt Masur conducting, in nice harmony with large anti-war protests going on in San Francisco, Washington, DC, and elsewhere.

Britten composed the *War Requiem* on commission for the 1962 consecration of a cathedral in Coventry, England, one of those towns of no strategic importance (like Dresden) which were bombed to smithereens during WWII. In the evening-length work, the Roman Catholic Requiem for the Dead is crosscut with settings of verse by WWI soldier and poet Wilfrid Owen, who was absurdly gunned down at 22, just one week before the Armistice was declared.

Britten wrote the tenor solos expressly for his lover and partner Peter Pears, who premiered the part in Coventry. At Davies, the featured vocalists were Christine Brewer, soprano; Jerry Hadley,



Tenor Jerry Hadley: post-Pears

tenor; and William Stone, baritone. Britten marshaled formidable artistic forces for the *Requiem*, which here included the mighty San Francisco Symphony Chorus led by director Vance George,

the San Francisco Girls Chorus under director Susan McMane, the Pacific Boychoir directed by Kevin Fox, and a chamber orchestra led by Edwin Outwater.

For us, the biggest artistic charge came from Owen's eerily prescient poetry, as when Hadley and Stone sang, "No soldier's paid to kick against his powers." We laughed, knowing that better men would come,

And greater wars; when each proud fighter brags/ He wars on Death — for Life; not men — for flags."

In his pre-concert "Inside Music Talk," program annotator James Keller

made the connection to the current international situation explicit. Declared Keller, "For pacifist musicians, and there are many, the *War Requiem* is our weapon!"

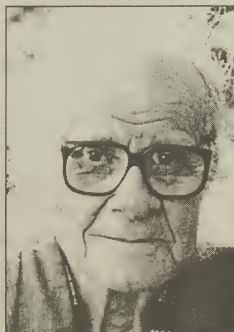
In Out There's own reflections, we dedicated our attendance at the *Requiem* to the late Minnesota Senator Paul Wellstone, who, in one of his last acts, courageously voted against granting Congressional war powers to Bush, even



King George plays with his toy.

while he was in the midst of a fiercely competitive Senate race. Wellstone voted his conscience, representing all of us who still haven't lost ours.

For reasons of history that mainly have to do with losses due to the plague, right now the gay community doesn't have a great number of elders, sages, statesmen, but gay rights pioneer Harry Hay, who died in SF last week at



Harry Hay, R.I.P.

90, was surely one. Not only would the Mattachine Society and the Radical Faeries never have taken off without Hay, neither would gay liberation as we are lucky enough to know it. Harry was just our kind of commie pinko fairy George Washington, and John Burnside his longtime Martha.

There was a third non-baseball Giant who died last week. Classic Broadway lyricist Adolph "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" Green shuffled off this mortal coil. In honor of Green this week, try and make someone happy.

Moore bares all

Bay Area actress Sara Moore is up to her old tricks again. Moore, best remembered as the singing sniper Valerie Solanas in the critically acclaimed *Up Your Ass* at George Coates Performance Works, and as the director of the feature film *Homo Heights* starring comic Lea Delaria and icon Quentin Crisp (in his only starring screen role), will be starring in *Show Ho*, her new world premiere at Theatre Rhino, running from Nov. 7 through Dec. 7.

One of her publicity shots shows Sara bare-breasted, wearing boxing gloves in a victory pose (see this week's *Out & About* column). It seems that this photo of the babe's bare breasts is way too much for some of the tamer publications in town, and they have decided to run an alternative image of Moore as a clown. Moore has worked as a clown at Ringling Brothers and was the artistic director and lead clown of SF's *Make\*A\*Circus* for a season; but we think our readers deserve the adult version. Tickets: call Theatre Rhino at (415) 861-5079.

Green party

Hoping to kiss a man: In the *Spiderman* sequel that's already planned, handsome actor James Franco will be repeating his role as Harry Osborn, son of Willem Dafoe, who plays Spidey's nemesis, the Green Goblin. Franco opened up his heart and revealed to *People* magazine earlier this month that he aspires to working his way up to the title of Green Goblin himself. He recalls talking to fellow movie actor Nicolas Cage about the prospect, and adds, "Nic thought that the Green Goblin could be secretly in love with Spiderman, and make out with him or something. I think that would be nice." So do we, Jimmy: make your move!

Gaywatch

Out There's stable of compulsive mass-circulation magazine readers has definitively concluded that mainstream glossies are increasingly referring to subjects' homosexuality as no big deal, just part of the bio. Exhibit A: *Rolling Stone's* profile of MTV/VH1 president of entertainment Brian Graden. Graden gets the full tabloid treatment ("light, thinning hair and large, rapt eyes"), but only halfway through the feature does he say, "I told my boyfriend [italics ours] the other day, 'I feel like the Forrest Gump of cable.'" So that explains the chunky shoes, flattering jeans, and worked-out upper bod, as evidenced in the feature photo.

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MTV/VH1 suit Brian Graden

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### The Men From The Boys

by Mart Crowley

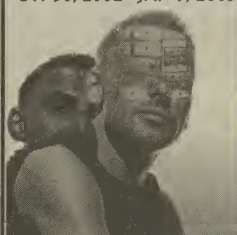
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## THEATRE

# Picano unpacks 'Trunk'

by Richard Dodds

**P**rolific gay novelist Felice Picano, off to the Gay Games in Sydney, is counting on jet lag when he returns via San Francisco. Before heading home to Los Angeles, he's stopping first in SF to see *The Bombay Trunk* at New Conservatory Theatre Center. (Ticket info at 861-8972.)

"I'll be completely jet-lagged, which is probably the only way to go to your own premiere," Picano said shortly before heading Down Under. "I think I may be able to sit back and enjoy it. Well, almost."

*The Bombay Trunk* will have its official world premiere on Nov. 9, but the play was actually written 15 years ago. "We had a reading," Picano said, "at which point it was clear that nobody had any idea what the hell the play was about."

And so *The Bombay Trunk* was shunted aside, as Picano returned to his prose career, adding such titles as *Like People in History*, *Men Who Loved Me*, and *Onyx* to a plump body of published work that already included *The Lure*, *Ambidextrous: The Secret Lives of Children*, *Late in the Season*, and a half-dozen more.

"I didn't think about the play at all until last year," he said. "A friend of mine in San Diego was having a reading of his play down there. Someone asked me if I had a play to be read. I said, 'As a matter of fact I do, if I can only find it.' I pulled it out and screwed around with it, and when we had a reading last year, everyone was very excited by it. The play had changed very little. I think audiences have changed."

*The Bombay Trunk* is billed as a mystery-comedy, and the plot, as described by Picano, sounds like something Quentin Tarantino, David Lynch, and Luigi Pirandello might have imagined if they had worked together.

"Everything in the play changes," the author said. "It consists of one play in the first act, and about three other ones in the second act, one of which completely comments on the first play. I really want to push the fourth wall, and the fifth, sixth, and seventh walls, to make theater that will come out and grip you."

Picano is one of the founding fathers of the contemporary gay literature movement, and he has used fiction to document the evolving scene and his own journey through it. "Because of the time I've lived in, I've ended up, in spite of myself, a pioneer," he said. "I've been very much an activist, too."

His battles began at an early age, in a home headed by a domineering Italian father. "They didn't have a clue, and I was way out there," he said of his parents. "I just vanished, and years later I found out they sent a detective to look for me. But I really felt I was on Mars. I said to my father, 'Lincoln freed the slaves. Fuck you.' And I believe those were my exact words."

## Wilde women

Women's Will is making its first foray beyond the Shakespeare canon. The all-female Shakespearean troupe is putting its distaff stamp on *The Importance of Being Earnest*, sure to add to the gender complexities of an already



Author Felice Picano: 'I was way out there.'

queerish play.

But if the concept is contemporary, Oscar Wilde's masterpiece is being staged in a succession of historic properties that were around when *Earnest* opened in London in 1895. Performances begin Nov. 1 at the Pardee Home in Oakland, before moving to the Stern Grove Trocadero Clubhouse in San Francisco and the Falkirk Mansion in San Rafael.

Erin Merritt, artistic director of Women's Will, is playing Algernon Moncrieff, a gentle-

man of leisure whose secret life of "bunburying" begins to unravel. Another interesting casting note finds Phoebe Moyer, a veteran Bay Area actress, as the frighteningly imperious Lady Bracknell.

Reservations and more information are available at [www.womenswill.org](http://www.womenswill.org) or by calling 567-1758.

## Getting Out

ACT has added a bonus production to its "Out with ACT" program. Those who buy the four-play series will receive a free ticket to Carey Perloff's *The Colossus of Rhodes* being staged at the Zeum Theater in January.

The program, aimed at LGBT audiences, includes a post-show reception with cast members at the designated performances. At the Geary Theater, the shows and dates in the series are *Lackawanna Blues* (Nov. 13), *The Dazzle* (March 5), *The Constant Wife* (April 16), and *Urinetown* (July 16).

*The Colossus of Rhodes*, by ACT's artistic director, is a theatrical exploration of the 19th-century English entrepreneurs who set out to conquer the South African diamond industry. The play specifically focuses on Cecil Rhodes, who went on to establish the Rhodes Scholarship, and his close relationship with another man.

Those buying series or single tickets should mention "Out with ACT" when ordering by phone (749-2228) or at the box office.

## Short scenes

• *Eugenia*, a play by lesbian New Zealander Lorae Parry, is running through Nov. 24 at Theatre Rhino. First staged in New Zealand in 1996, the play tells the true story of Eugenia Martelli, an

Italian immigrant in the early 1900s who lives as a man and is charged with murdering the woman she has married. The Chameleon Theatre Company is presenting the play's West Coast premiere. Call 861-5079.

• Audiences will be asked to choose either the light ending or the dark ending that Nicky Silver provided for *The Food Chain*. The Unidentified Theatre Company is presenting the wonky comedy's SF premiere at the New Conservatory Theatre Center. Director Christopher Jenkins has previously staged *Legion* and *Martin Yesterday* for NCTC. Info: 861-

8972.

• In *7 Sins*, now at the Shelton Theatre, a changing roster of performers confess true-life tales based on the Seven Deadly Sins. Local performers are being joined by a succession of Hollywood actors in the show, being performed at 5 and 8 p.m. Sundays through Dec. 15. To see who is appearing when, go to [www.cellarfulofnoise.com](http://www.cellarfulofnoise.com), or call 820-3947. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at [BARstage@aol.com](mailto:BARstage@aol.com).

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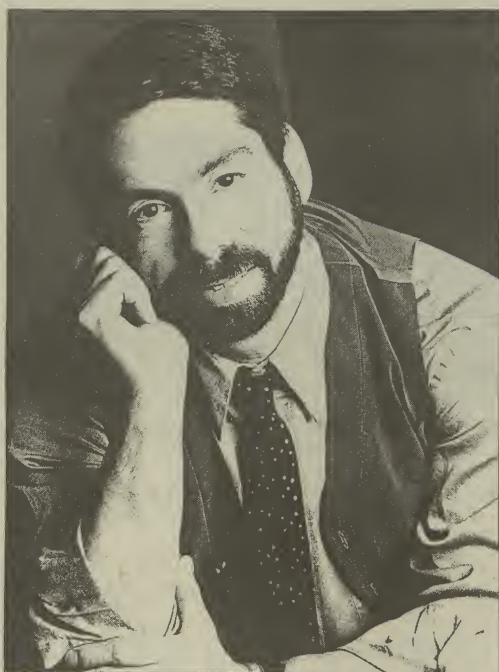
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Hersch on being a gay jazz artist: 'Eventually, it will be a non-issue.'

## From jazz to classical, in capable hands

Jeffrey Kahane premieres Fred Hersch piece

by Jason Serinus

Critically acclaimed as "a master who plays it his way," jazz great Fred Hersch has released 18 albums as a solo artist or bandleader, two of which were nominated for Grammy awards for Best Jazz Instrumental Performance. Now 47, the New York-based pianist and composer is also one of the few out gay musicians in the jazz world.

"I've been more or less out in the jazz world for probably 20 years," Hersch told the *B.A.R.* "I went public in a big way in 1993, when I disclosed my HIV status. I've since raised a quarter-million bucks for Classical Action, done lots of concerts, and produced three CDs for them. I'm probably their biggest fundraiser."

What is less known about Hersch is that his classical training has produced a number of through-composed classical pieces over the years, including a set of small piano studies. His song for the *AIDS Quilt Songbook* appears on the disc of that name, and his semi-classical "Tango Bittersweet" appears on the album *Memento Bittersweet*.

Hersch's longest classical composition to date, the 25-minute *24 Variations on a Bach Chorale*, will receive its San Francisco world premiere on November 6 in the hands of pianist Jeffrey Kahane, who also serves as conductor of the Santa Rosa Symphony.

Kahane and Hersch met in the mid-'90s, when Jeffrey invited Fred's trio to play a program with the Santa Rosa Symphony. The two have since performed as a piano duo, and Kahane's son Gabriel has become Hersch's student. Hersch calls Kahane "a great musician and a great guy."

Hersch has high hopes for his new work. "I think it's a technically challenging piece that pianists will like. Bach wrote such a great theme." He'll perform the East Coast premiere next February 18 in Carnegie Hall's Weil Recital Hall, is currently looking for a publisher, and would like to record the work down the line.

While Hersch wanted to write a piece specifically for Kahane, he reveals, "It was also a way I could write something for myself that would stretch my own performing technique. I also get a lot of requests from classical musicians who want something of mine to play."

### First listens

Asked which recordings he suggests as introductions to his oeuvre, Hersch offers three. One is a live solo album, *Let Yourself Go*, a mixed program that's typical of the way he approaches the piano as a solo player.

Another is his 2001 three-CD Nonesuch set, *Songs Without Words*. One disc contains improvised piano pieces, another treatments of tunes by great jazz composers (Wayne Shorter, Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington, etc.), and the third the music of Cole

Porter. "That's three different food groups in one package," joshes Hersch in deadpan style.

The third disc, due in January from Palmetto, is a live recording of Hersch's trio performing at the Village Vanguard in May 2001. Featuring a lot of new arrangements and compositions, Hersch calls it "definitely my strongest trio project to date."

This past spring, Hersch participated in a New York Village Vanguard panel discussion on gays in jazz, sponsored by the Columbia University Institute for Advanced Journalistic Studies, which resulted in a widely disseminated article in the *New York Times*. Two jazz writers, vibraphonist Gary Burton, singer Andy Bey (also out as an HIV + artist), and a saxophone player also spoke.

"The reason I've been out for so many years is so eventually it will become a non-issue," Hersch says candidly. With more than a hint of New York centrism, he asserts, "Who's gay and who isn't gay isn't all that interesting. This is 2002; it's not that big of a deal. Hopefully in my lifetime, it will get as interesting as, 'I wear glasses, and somebody else doesn't.'"

Hersch denies that a "gay sensibility" infuses his music-making. "I don't consider that I play gay music. I play my music, and I happen to be gay. Yes, I've done certain things addressing certain issues, whether the AIDS Quilt or a piece I wrote related to the murder of Matthew Shepard. I'm a gay artist, but I don't play gay music. By that token, Copland is gay music. Only he knows how much being gay impacted his experience of the world."

"The main reason to come out is to not have to worry about who knows and who doesn't. The price of keeping secrets is high. I prefer not to expend that energy on who knows and who cares. I don't care." ▼

Jeffrey Kahane performs Fred Hersch's *24 Variations on a Bach Chorale* on Wed., Nov. 6, 8 p.m., in Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. Tickets: (415) 392-4400, or [www.performances.org](http://www.performances.org).

Pianist Jeffrey Kahane will premiere Hersch's *Variations on a Bach Chorale*.

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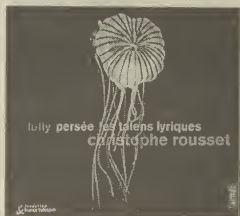
## MUSIC

# Pursuing Perseus

Christophe Rousset does French Baroque right

by Tim Pfaff

Context is everything. Midway through Bangkok's four-day, two-production (imported from Romania) opera season, I read of the new live recording of Lully's *Persée* by Christophe Rousset's magnificent Les Talens Lyriques (Astrée, three CDs). I nearly choked on the *New York Times* critic's comment, "It is hard to fathom why *Persée*, a lyric tragedy composed in 1682, was not recorded before."



A Proustian rush of memory put me once again in front of a former *éminence grise* of the UC Berkeley Music Department. Nearly 20 years ago, I was seeking his sage advice about how I could help realize then-Cal music professor Alan Curtis' hope of performing that very opera at Cal — when the suddenly apoplectic EG looked at me as if I just asked him what he could do to stop world hunger. "And wouldn't that just pack 'em in?" he spat back at me.

The thought of having to perform CPR in his office kept me from reminding him that Curtis had already successfully packed 'em in for the world premiere of *Semiramide*, a 17th-century Pietro Antonio Cesti opera that was never performed at the wedding for which it was commissioned (because the groom bolted; there may be a gay historical novel in there somewhere).

Thanks to Rousset, the modern history of *Persée* has been written. Now I can go back to thinking about the next Bangkok opera season, which surely won't involve any such complications — and how much easier life has become.

But I digress.

Nothing in Rousset's exultant new recording (made in Paris in September 2001) even hints at the endless difficulties of getting a French Baroque opera — say nothing of a 17th-century one — right. As is this gay musician's uncanny wont, this towering but ceaselessly tricky masterpiece comes off as just what it was meant to be — an entertainment (albeit a court entertainment calculated to flatter Lully's patron, Louis XIV). The performance is so carefully thought out and so exquisitely realized that it comes as a jolt to hear the lusty applause, a reminder that this seemingly flawless performance was live.

Don't take "entertainment" to mean that there's any lack of drama in this performance, or any superficiality of characterization in the score or the elegant way in which it is sung by Rousset's universally expert cast. Any opera with Medusa at its center is likely to have a certain torque, and Lully's Medusa is a real shocker. Go directly to the middle of the opera for her big scene and notice, first, that the part is sung by a male — and no countertenor, either, but a medium-range voice (a "taille," the excellent Laurent

Staars). Whatever could Lully have had in mind with this inspired bit of genderfuck?

## Enter Mercury

The episode is in every respect extraordinary, and entirely representative of this wondrous reading. Medusa's deputy Gorgons are frightened by the beautiful music they hear in the distance (rapt flute-playing, some of the finest in my experience of early-instrument recordings), which accompanies the entrance of Mercury, countertenor Robert Getchell.

Get this: then Mercury tells Medusa, "It has always been my dearest wish/To see the whole world live in lasting peace. Do you never tire of the wicked pleasure/Of threatening the peace of the world?"

Lully's testosterone-heavy Medusa replies, "It was at the hands of barbarous gods that I learnt to become cruel." (Think W., Inc.) When Mercury can't get Medusa to listen, let alone change her evil ways, he resorts to that Baroque opera staple: the sleep aria. Getchell's plangent "O! tranquille sommeil" has the throat-clutching quality of a lullaby for the end of the world.

The instrumental playing is astounding in its easy virtuosity — never so much as a hint of effort, just ripeness, fullness and exactitude of expression. And it's not just the solo singing that impresses. Lully punctuates the drama with a bounty of choruses, and Rousset's choristers perform at the same lofty level as the rest of his musicians. Both because of the importance of the music itself, and the caliber of the performance, this is arguably the best recording of a French Baroque opera to date.

For the record, if living well is the best revenge, Curtis has got his. Besides having come out in the years since his *Persée* didn't, he's escaped the treachery of academic politics for the fairer climes of Italy, from which base he continues to explore neglected corners of the repertoire and somehow get them recorded. His latest CD is a live performance (from Sienna, interestingly, from where the first live performance of Rousset's *Persée* was broadcast) of Handel's opera *Armínio* (Virgin). People (the approximately 20 of us, including me) who think all 40 Handel operas are masterpieces will have to have this one.

Curtis' performances seldom boast the perfection of execution that is a reliable feature of Rousset's. But they compensate with something as valuable: they get under your skin. Curtis has an unerring feel for bringing Handel's genius at characterization to the fore, and his productions lend an uncanny air of believability to the most baroque of Baroque librettos. They bother you in all the right ways, and this *Armínio* is no exception.

## A modest proposal

Now that Pamela Rosenberg has shown what she can do with contemporary French opera, she might consider bringing *Persée* to SF, assuming her budgetary wings haven't been too severely clipped. As Rousset's recording makes clear, the piece works splendidly and may even have something to say to our troubled world.

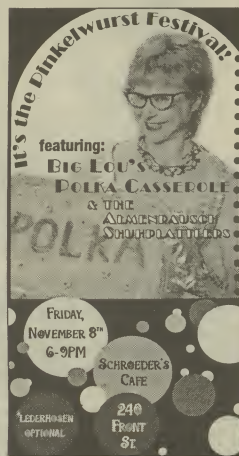
The question would be the proper venue; might I recom-



Rousset and Les Talens Lyriques give a wondrous reading of Lully's *Persée*.

mend that jewel of a theater in the Palace of Fine Arts? Very Versailles, too. Impossible? Sure. But everyone knows you wouldn't have to leave town to find the private money to underwrite the whole venture. And Rosenberg could pick from Rousset, Curtis

and the ubiquitous Nick McGegan to lead her very own *Persée*. (Don't be shy, Pamela: go for Rousset.) And, given what we know about Bay Area opera audiences, the one thing she could count on is that it would pack 'em in. ▼



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## Ho-hum intrigue

'Gaudi Afternoon' out on video and DVD

by Matthew Kennedy

**G**audi Afternoon, a 2001 SF International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival opening-night film, never got a theatrical distributor, and has finally shown up on video and DVD. Apparently, the world has not been holding its collective breath.

Based on Barbara Wilson's mystery novel, it begins and ends with Cassandra (Judy Davis), a high-strung American with chronic wanderlust. We find her in Barcelona, where she is eking out a living as a translator. When Frankie (the Oscar-anointed Marcia Gay Harden) hires Cassandra to find her wayward husband, the noirish twists and turns begin. But *Gaudi* injects gender play, a custody struggle, bisexuality and lesbianism into the mix for its own spin on the successive revelations inherent in the genre. Sam Spade had to solve many puzzles, but never who was a girl and who was a boy.

Sad, then, that *Gaudi* lacks the freshness of its conceit. In its final form, it looks more like an Almodovar leftover than anything else. In fact, *Gaudi Afternoon* is so Almodovaresque one wonders if director Susan Seidelman (*Desperately Seeking Susan*, *She-Devil*) decided this was to be a tribute to the bad boy of Spanish cinema. It's all there — the rich colors, Barcelona back streets, the skewering of sexual and cinematic conventions, and the powerful, elemental women. She even hired Almodovar trouper Maria Barranco (*Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*) as a larger-than-life neighbor, a sort of Catalan Rhoda Morgenstern. You will be shocked — shocked! — at some of the revelations herein. Sarcasm aside, you've seen it all before. And there is a faint whiff of disappointment when our crew of sexual dissidents converges at the conclusion for a soft and fuzzy family moment. This is what we've been waiting for?

### Gentle curves

Let's put aside the piss and vinegar for just a moment.



Marcia Gay Harden as Frankie in Susan Seidelman's *Gaudi Afternoon*.

Bernardo Bonezzi's gentle score undulates affectionately to the alluring curves of *Gaudi*'s monuments. Treat *Gaudi Afternoon* like a brief insider's tour of Barcelona, complete with stops at picturesque cathedrals and nightclubs, and you won't be sorry. And the movie does have a fun plot and a starring cast of four game actresses. At the top is the inimitable Judy Davis, playing, once again, a harried, boyish, unkempt modern neurotic. As Davis has proved time and again, she is an absolute master at the arch and brittle line delivery. Whenever the script fails her, as it does here, she summons her considerable gifts of timing, gesture and expression to revive the proceedings.

Davis works hard here, and she outshines her co-stars. Harden has the more difficult acting assignment, as a sort of genderfuck 21st-century reconceptualization of the femme fatale. Her effort is not altogether successful, though she knows how to wear tight red and black skirt-and-sweater ensembles. Lili Taylor shows up to do her patented angry young dyke rou-

tine, adding to the film's accumulated redolence of *déjà vu*. Juliette Lewis, rounding out the quartet, convincingly inhabits the thankless role of a homily-spewing California hippie chick who washes her sprouts down with vodka. Memo to Seidelman: Jennifer Saunders, Paul Mazursky and Woody Allen, among others, have already stripped the comic potential out of the New Age hypocrite.

One senses that Seidelman sought to honor enduring movie conventions (missing person, mystery woman, the chase, the hero's transformation) while frosting them with a greater freedom to portray sex, gender and alternative families. But that freedom has been around for a long time, getting a headstart way back in '59 when Osgood discovered the secret of Daphne in *Some Like It Hot*. Forty-two years later, *Gaudi Afternoon* looks like a stale, late entry in the game. It's not naughty, but it wants to be. So much for indelible images. *Gaudi Afternoon* disappears like a helium balloon let loose on a windy afternoon. ▼

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## THEATRE

# Youth in the mix

## 'The Men from the Boys' at NCTC

by Richard Dodds

It's a tale as old as time: young folk who don't respect their elders. But mostly that tale has been told from a specifically, or at least presumptively, heterosexual point of view. In *The Men from the Boys*, playwright Mart Crowley sets the generational conflict squarely in a prickly gay world.

It has been 34 years since Crowley first opened a theatrical closet door with *The Boys in the Band*, and the notion of gay elders would have been meaningless to its youthful characters. Most of those characters are back in Crowley's sequel, having its world premiere at the New Conservatory Theatre Center. Now they often feel like outsiders peering into a party which they helped set up, but to which they are no longer welcome.

Crowley clearly has a lot to get off his chest — 34 years' worth — and the new play is ripe with debates, criticisms, and pronouncements commenting on a post-liberation world. The fervently bitchy Michael, the character that Crowley allows is most often his spokesman, may have mellowed in his cynicism, but age has also brought a new bitterness. I doubt anyone will feel better about growing old and gay after seeing this play.

In *The Boys in the Band*, Michael hosted a birthday party that turned cruelly confessional. Now his New York apartment (stylishly designed by Eric E. Sinkkonen) is the scene of a post-funeral gathering for the friends of Larry, one of the original boys, who has died of non-AIDS-related cancer. "Cancer without the quotes," says Michael. "The respectable kind."

**Crowley clearly has a lot to get off his chest (34 years' worth), and the new play is ripe with debate.**

While the original cast of *The Boys in the Band* has been decimated by AIDS, the disease has surprisingly not claimed any of the original characters' lives. AIDS does become the focus of one pivotal scene, but mostly the play deals, at times too literally, with looks, aging, relationships, and gay society.

### The young and the restless

Crowley introduces three new characters into the mix, each of them young and unrooted. While it's easy enough to get a handle on the petulant Scott (a believable Olen Christian Holm), the tweaked twink and potential boy-toy for Michael, this is less true of the other newbies. The eager-to-please Rick (a genial Rajiv Shah) is a bland figure with a secret that turns out to be less than shattering. Harder still to pin is Jason, a self-described screw-up who can't hold a job, but who comes closest to having a political consciousness.

The generational debate that arises between Jason and Michael feels flimsy, and the anger that ensues just seems strange. Part of the problem may stem from a vague and sometimes stumbling performance by Owen Thomas as Jason, a character in need of an actor with more definition.

But there is no ambiguity



The cast of the premiere of *The Men from the Boys*: It's generational.

about Russ Duffy's Michael, a performance of seemingly effortless astrangency. He is expert at tossing off the joyless barbs Crowley has supplied the character, and his miserable relationship with Scott rings with sad veracity.

Michael Patrick Gaffney does justice to Emory, who remains a screaming queen, and many of the play's biggest laughs derive from his performance. Will Huddleston also provides memorable work as Harold, the unflappable pot-smoking birthday boy of the first play, whose studied composure faces a major challenge.

As the stalwart Bernard, Lewis Sims has some trouble meshing with the production's rhythms, but Peter Carlstrom is fine as the hard-drinking Donald, and Terry Lamb is excellent as the grieving Hank. Andrew Nance makes an effective last-minute appearance as the imagined spirit of the late Larry.

Director Ed Decker has done an admirable job of staging this large-cast drama with its complex, tangled, and at times unattractive stories, personalities, and opinions. Give credit to Crowley for not coming up with a feel-good play that toes any politically prescribed line. And credit, too, to New Conservatory for giving Crowley a chance to once again raise his iconoclastic, querulous voice. ▼

*The Men from the Boys* will run at New Conservatory Theatre Center through Dec. 8. Tickets are \$18-\$38. Call 861-8972.

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# Stand up and deliver

'Comedian' is a straight boys' club

by David Lamble

**A**re you gay?" A female heckler touches a raw nerve in Orny Adams. Later, the 29-year-old comic is lying on a sidewalk, perilously close to the fetal position, gloating, "Somewhere there's a young woman out having a great time. She doesn't know she's going to spend the rest of her life with me."

*Comedian*, now playing, proves that the job of making people laugh is as much fun as training a pitbull not to eat the mailman. The bulk of the movie's 82 minutes is spent backstage with Jerry Seinfeld as he keeps a promise to retire all the jokes he's told since breaking into the business in the late '70s.

The standup world Seinfeld

wants back into is a straight boys' club. No gays are glimpsed, and the few women present are serving cocktails or pushing baby-strollers. Seinfeld and comic Gary Shandling kid about how quickly each won the much-coveted invitation to talk with Johnny Carson after first performing on the *Tonight Show*. Shandling confesses, "That's the first time I sought approval from a man."

Seinfeld pieces his new act together one line at a time ("Why do we say, 'Wait for the beep?' Do you have unidentified women leaving messages on your machine?"), covering the waterfront from testimonials for male hair-coloring products to the possible perils of working at a think tank. You say to yourself, "This stuff isn't very funny. Jerry's coasting on his reputation."

Ex-*Seinfeld* head-writer Larry David once described Jerry as one of the most un-neurotic comics he's ever met. It is precisely this cool under fire, loath to reveal his own private life, and endlessly-ironic Seinfeld who is the subject of *Comedian*, in sharp contrast to the painfully self-loathing figure of the young Orny Adams, who struggles with bad hair days, mistimed jokes, and his own rash of flop sweats as the prospect of success looms. That he can't absorb the "Are you gay?" line into his act shows how desperately uncool and unprepared for the slippery slope of 21st-century masculinity he is. It's an age where famous baseball players hold press conferences announcing that they're not gay — the Seinfeld tag line, "Not that there's anything wrong with that," hovering in the air. ▼



Comedian/sitcom star Jerry Seinfeld retires all the jokes he's ever told.



Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger, 1972, in *The Trials of Henry Kissinger*.

## Pinochet Case

◀ page 41

manity by systematic and unusually brutal torture.

In his new film, Guzman balances horrifying recollections with the healing epiphanies of survivors. A rape victim recalls, "The hardest thing is to watch somebody being tortured next to you without being able to do anything. That never leaves you."

Guzman opens with the stoic search of a desert landscape by the relatives of torture victims, looking for the slightest bone fragment to discern where a loved one may have met his fate. There is a hauntingly implicit analogy to the sifting for body parts at Ground Zero. A parallel story finds the elderly ex-dictator, on a holiday shopping spree, suddenly facing 503 days of house arrest, divested of diplomatic immunity, his legal fate left to the House of Lords. Guzman has Pinochet shopping at Har-

rods, reading Napoleon's memoirs, and having tea at Lady Thatcher's, where he's thanked for "bringing true democracy to Chile."

In Santiago, a grandmother displays a photo of her grandson, slain while still a teenager, the photo kept under plastic. "This is my saint. I pray to him. This picture has been all over the world, but I've yet to find justice."

In London, a Labor MP recalls the Pinochet verdict in the Lords' chamber like a soccer goal penalty, the ex-tyrant slinking out of the building with a blanket over his head, "like my childhood memories of seeing murderers and child molesters leave court that way." As the ex-dictator waits with his suitcases packed to flee the country, back in Chile, the widow of one of his victims recalls how for years she kept an overnight bag, complete with candy bars, ready in case her missing husband was found alive.

## Henry the K

On the same Castro bill, but in another emotional universe, is *The Trials of Henry Kissinger*. He was often the brightest boy in class; 13 of his relatives died in the Holocaust; his portrait by Richard Avedon is a study in ambiguity, with the just the hint of a Mona Lisa smile; he could have been played by Peter Sellers (some fans erroneously believe that Seller's surrealistically funny take on the German-accented presidential advisor Dr. Strangelove was based on him). He won a Nobel Peace Prize; for decades, Washington hostesses counted him among the nation's most eligible bachelors; in the mid-'70s, his DC townhouse was smack-dab in the middle of a gay male motor-cruising circuit, his door guarded by a squad of hunky Secret Service agents. His government papers are sealed from prying eyes until five years after his death; his most severe critics feel he should be tried for war crimes. Who is Henry Kissinger?

It's not often that you leave a film about a living person and feel like shouting, "Arrest that man!" Filmmakers Alex Gibney and Eugene Jarecki's 80-minute bio-docket *The Trials of Henry Kissinger* is based on a book of the same title by journalist Christopher Hitchens, whose delightfully daffy quote, "What I yearn for is some quality face-

time with him," gives an almost *Roger & Me* tone to this generally sober indictment. (Kissinger refused to be interviewed for the BBC-produced film.)

In a most sublime moment, General Alexander Haig, Kissinger's aide on the National Security Council (NSC) and a famous sufferer of foot-in-mouth disease, is shown beside himself with rage at the mere mention of Hitchens' name. Haig, in the almost prissy manner of the Nixon generation of powerful men unused to uttering their profanities in public, leans towards the camera and says in a stage whisper about Hitchens, Kissinger's chief nemesis, "He's a sewerpipe-sucker! He sucks the sewerpipe!"

Imagine Kissinger ("HK") as a real-life Dr. Strangelove being dissected by his critics in the *Rashomon*-like style of *Citizen Kane*. You know he's a rat, but just how big were his teeth, and into whose flesh did they sink? The film divides the charges against HK into four basic counts. 1. Ditching his mentor Nelson Rockefeller for the NSC job with Richard Nixon, HK is accused of secretly sabotaging the 1968 Paris peace talks, and blamed for seven additional years of bloodshed. 2. HK conspired to hide the illegal American bombing of Cambodia, paving the way for the auto-genocidal atrocities of Pol Pot. 3. HK pushed for the coup against the elected Chilean government of Salvadore Allende. 4. HK okayed the invasion of East Timor by Indonesian President Suharto.

A capitol insider explains the odd couple, Nixon and HK, arguing that Nixon, who liked neither Jews nor intellectuals, liked Kissinger because "he knew what to do without being told." Another credits HK with a fine grasp of the role of the media and function of publicity in shaping the image of public men. Is this why HK was spared the ignominy of Nixon's resignation and exile?

Journalist Seymour Hersh, who feels that "the dark side of Henry Kissinger is very, very dark," almost takes pity on HK, adding that whether Kissinger is put on trial may be irrelevant. "He's got his own sentence. He's got to live with himself." ▼

*The Pinochet Case* and *The Trials of Henry Kissinger* play the Castro November 1-7.

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## FILM

Some scenes in director Julie Taymor's new biographical film *Frida* are destined to become Dyke Classics.

## Frida Kahlo

◀ page 41

she was a sophisticated urban daughter of a German Jewish photographer and a Mexican mother, Kahlo affected a native Mexican appearance, and displayed herself, both in life and in her many self-portraits, in the flamboyant, colorful costumes of Mexican Indians. She also, tantalizingly, painted herself in drag, a none-too-subtle clue about her bisexuality.

While her affairs with women are well-documented, the greatest love of her life was the legendary muralist Diego Rivera, whom she married twice, divorced once, and left a widower at her early death in 1954. The Riveras formed the core of a group of Latin American Stalinist sympathizers, and they harbored the exiled Leon Trotsky when he left Russia for Mexico in 1940. If you want the full, accurate story of the tempestuous lives and work of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, read the excellent 1983 biography, *Frida*, by Hayden Herrera, on which the screenplay is based.

## In Old Mexico

That said, *Frida* is a damn good movie, thanks mostly to the artistic vision of director Julie Taymor (Broadway's *The Lion King*, cinema's *Titus*). In her hands, Mexico City (or its stand-in, Taxco) looks like the most romantic place this side of Old Seville. The mid-century communist community of Mexico's capital does not speak in Hollywoodisms, but is pretty believable in the literate screenplay by Clancy Sigal, Diane Lake, Gregory Nava and Anna Thomas. Most importantly, the battling Riveras are fleshed out by the principal actors, Hayek and the chameleon-like Alfred Molina (*Enchanted April*, *Boogie Nights*), who is a revelation as Rivera.

The main drawback when comparing reality to cinema is that the lead actors are too attractive to be the historical characters. Even plumped-up Molina is no physical match for the gargantuan, frog-faced Rivera, whose sex appeal to an army of women could be explained only by his artistic genius. Sex figures large in the cinematic version of the artists' lives, as it did in reality. The movie poster, which features a drag Frida and a femme Frida holding hands with herself (a parody of a famous painting, "The Two Fridas," in Mexico City), whispers in your ear, "Prepare to be seduced." Diego seduces an endless series of nude models. Frida seduces Trotsky. Diego seduces Frida's sister.

The most titillating scenes are destined to become Dyke Classics. One of them pairs Hayek's Frida with Ashley Judd, as Italian photographer Tina Modotti, in a sultry tango that culminates in a passionate kiss. Later, Frida seeks revenge on one of Diego's lovers by seducing her. "You were better than your husband," the woman says as Frida slips her hands up under her skirt in a public restaurant.

But titillation aside (and it wouldn't be Frida and Diego without the sex, which ended with a prenuptial agreement at the time of their Platonic second marriage), the artists' lives are brought into bold relief by the screenplay. The action takes them from the two principal Mexican locations, Frida's childhood home, the Blue House in Coyoacán, and Rivera's modernist studio, in nearby San Angel, to New York City, where Rivera was famously hired, then fired, by Nelson Rockefeller. The re-creation of the Rockefeller Center mural and its destruction, when the painted face of Lenin offended the King of Capitalism, are beautifully realized in a kind of nightmare sequence.

## Gringo land

The collage-like animated inserts rival anything since Salvador Dalí collaborated with Hitchcock on *Vertigo*. A black-and-white "Gringolandia" montage with colorized characters presents a minibiography of Frida and Diego like Alice in Wonderland, beyond the looking-glass of New York. Rivera's triumph in a one-man show at MoMA is presented as Diego-as-King-Kong, scaling the artistic heights of Manhattan. A New York skyscraper morphs into a shape in Frida's bathtub (in reality, painted by Kahlo in "What the Water Gave Me," 1938). Salma-as-Frida appears in a still-life, paintstrokes visible on her face and flesh, before she stands up to begin her scene. A frantic, romantic Paris montage rivals anything in *Moulin Rouge*.

Frida's pained soul is portrayed most effectively in scenes like the one in which she lies in a hospital bed, paintbrush in hand, rendering the image of her stillborn fetus, displayed in front of her in a large glass jar. The famous street-car incident is almost gorgeous in its slo-mo horror. The kind of hallucinatory state in which she finds herself during and after surgery is staged like a Day of the Dead "calacas" puppet show. This is great stuff from a fine filmmaker, and equal to the creativity of the couple to whom the film pays homage.

One can forgive the film for Ashley Judd's bad accent (she

sounds more like Bela Lugosi than an Italian, much as Nic Cage did in *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*). You can overlook the unnecessary presence of Antonio Banderas, who seems to be portraying artist David Alfaro Siqueiros, but who closely resembles the generic "Che" in *Evita*, commenting on the action and shrugging bemusedly at Frida's selection of a woman, rather than him, for a passionate dance.

To counterbalance those small gaffes, actors who bear an uncanny resemblance to the historic figures are put in place. These include Roger Rees (once "Nicholas Nickleby") as Frida's photographer father, and Valeria Golino as Rivera's sad and sympathetic green-eyed first wife Lupe, who



Actress Salma Hayek, as Kahlo, carries the film on her slim shoulders.

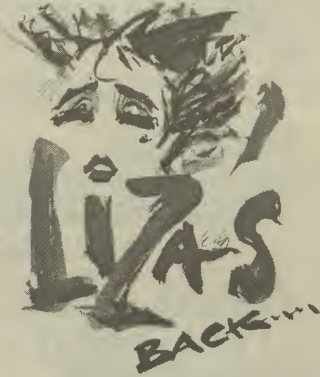
befriends second-wife Frida.

A delightful musical soundtrack by Elliot Goldenthal helps with the energetic pacing of the film and gives it great vitality. Even though I was familiar with the artists' lives, and knew what to expect next, I found each scene, as the Riveras' embattled lives unfolded, captivating. An era little understood and rarely portrayed north of the Rio Grande is dis-

played intelligently and gorgeously for a new audience in Julie Taymor's view of *Frida*. Go see it. ▼

Will Shank is working on an inventory and technical study of Diego Rivera's brushes and paints with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes at the Museo Estudio Diego Rivera Frida Kahlo in San Angel.

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# Boy meets boy

Howard Roffman shoots 'Friends & Lovers' for Bruno Gmunder

by Adam Sandel

Howard Roffman's new photography book *Friends & Lovers* (Bruno Gmunder, \$39.95) chronicles the friendships and relationships of seven very slim, very young men as they cavort and canoodle in various stages of undress. Roffman's black-and-white photographs are lovingly rendered, and the playful interaction between his subjects is often lively and evocative.

At first glance, *Friends & Lovers* appears to be a book that's destined to spend more time on the nightstand than on the coffee table. The boys' "barely legal" appeal makes it seem like the ideal gift for the pedophile on your Christmas list.

But the 49-year-old Roffman makes no apologies about his penchant for photographing very young men. "I have a passion for capturing young men at that stage in their life," he said in a recent interview. "I'm drawn to them aesthetically. It's a beauty that I'm interested in capturing."

This is Roffman's eighth book of nude male photography, and it evolved over a three-year period which began when the photographer met 21-year-old Jeremy Ferguson at the '99 Folsom Street Fair. "I go every year, and I give out a lot of cards," said Roffman. "I was with a boy I was dating," said Ferguson. "As we were leav-

ing, Howard chased us down and said he was a photographer, and he'd like to photograph us together."

Ferguson was not only flattered, but familiar with Roffman's work, having seen his book *Three*, which Roffman's website describes as "an intimate, steamy chronicle of three gorgeous young men who are deeply in love with each other."

No stranger to publicity himself, Ferguson had been a teenage gay activist who was profiled in *People* magazine and spoke at a gay rights rally at the US Capitol. The relationship with his Folsom Fair date soon came to an end, so Roffman photographed Ferguson alone.

Six months later, Ferguson met a young man named Chris. "We had a very intense connection that we hadn't seen come across in pictures before," he said. "I thought it would be nice to have someone chronicle the relationship." And Roffman was happy to oblige.

"I really wanted young guys to see these pictures and be able to identify with them," said Ferguson. "To see that it's okay for two boys to be in love." The Jeremy and Chris photos do carry the most intimate charge of all the photos in the book.

## Puppy love

The young men then introduced Roffman to their friend Jonathan, who appears to be



Seven slim young men play around in various stages of undress.

about 14, and he photographed the three of them lounging in their underwear, playing with

puppies, and pulling down each other's pants.

While the "changing partners"

aspect of the book appears to be quite idyllic in the photographs, there were conflicting emotions behind the scenes. After Jeremy and Chris parted ways, Chris took up with a young man named Ben. Roffman was eager to photograph them as well.

"Howard told me he wanted to take pictures of Chris and Ben, and I wasn't happy about it," said Ferguson. "It's been difficult at times."

As other young friends and lovers enter the scene, the photographs take on an Abercrombie and Fitch-type look, focusing more on the young men's decorative qualities than their emotional lives.

"There are two distinct markets for this book," said Roffman. "Adult men who are into that type of young man, and people in the age group I'm photographing who like what the work is saying about being gay."

Ferguson, who's been in a committed relationship with artist Rene Capone for the past year and a half, is glad to have been part of the project. "I want people to know that there's a positive message here," he said. "That young boys don't have to live their lives in the closet or deny who they are." ▼

Roffman signs books on Dec. 14, 3 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St., SF.

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## BOOKS

# A drag's life

New biography of Charles Pierce

by Tavo Amador

Many gay men who lived in or visited San Francisco during the '60s and '70s have vivid memories of self-styled male actress Charles Pierce (1926-1999). Pierce's run at the Gilded Cage on Ellis Street and subsequent engagements at Gold Street (now Bix), the Plush Room, and the Fairmont Hotel's Venetian Room made him a local institution. He was a brilliant stand-up comic and female impersonator, remembered most for his spectacular recreation of Bette Davis. Pierce enjoyed success and acclaim in London, Los Angeles, and New York, eventually winning an Obie for his off-Broadway show.

In *From Drags To Riches, The Untold Story of Charles Pierce* (Harrington Park Press, \$19.95), John Wallraff makes a stab at recapturing the era in which Pierce thrived. He succeeds, intermittently. Wallraff met Pierce while both were students at the Pasadena Playhouse in the '40s. The two remained friends after graduation, and Wallraff often wrote material for Pierce, sometimes performing with him. This gives him valuable insight into what Pierce was like at different stages of his life, which is the book's major strength. Unfortunately, Wallraff's Pierce does not seem to



Several of Pierce's comedy routines are reprised in a new biography.

ever a household name, let alone a celebrated film actress. But both offered encouragement.

## Broadway baby

His first important San Francisco engagement was at Ann's 440, on Broadway. He met Rio Dante, who quickly joined his act as pianist, arranger, and memorable co-star. Together, they played the Gilded Cage, where they be-

**John Wallraff's account is chronological, and often draws on Pierce's unfinished autobiography and a lengthy interview he gave to the Bay Area Reporter.**

have been very interesting when not on stage, and much of the biography has a bloated, must-fill-the-pages quality, including a few sections describing his sexual activities, written like formulaic (and not good) pornography.

Born in Watertown, New York, Pierce was an only child, and very close to his mother and aunt. Although his asthmatic father was "distant," Pierce insisted he loved his son. Considering him "too pretty" to be a boy, his mother and aunt encouraged him to dress in costumes, including female ones. He had a crush on a high school classmate, and their one cold sexual encounter left him emotionally scarred, as did the young man's eventual marriage.

While at the Pasadena Playhouse, Pierce honed his acting and timing skills and discovered gay life, which was then fairly underground. Wallraff, whose hyperbolic prose often results in excessive claims, says that Pierce met "famous Hollywood stars" like Beverly Ashton and Lola Lorraine. Neither one of these ladies was

came a local institution. This seven-year run led to other important engagements, both locally and elsewhere.

Wallraff's account is chronological, and often draws on Pierce's unfinished autobiography and a lengthy interview he gave to the *Bay Area Reporter*. Nowhere, however, does he discuss how Pierce felt about the changes in acceptance for gay people that he witnessed and helped foster. We do get some interesting anecdotes, such as his unsuccessful audition to play Katharine Hepburn's assistant in *Coco*, his one meeting with Davis, and his involvement in the celebrated pot raid in the Haight in 1967, which snared Rudolph Nureyev and Margot Fonteyn, here performing with the Royal Ballet. This last is especially amusing, and demonstrates how times have changed.

Wallraff reprints several of Pierce's comedy routines, including his celebrated bitch fights between Davis and Tallulah Bankhead. Unfortunately, these

next page ►

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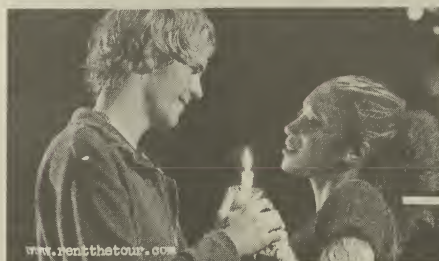
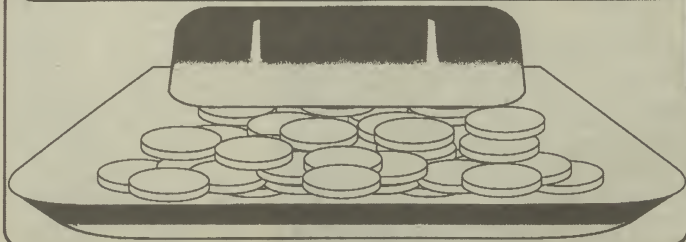
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# Party monsters

Popper vs. Wittgenstein in bestseller

by Brandon Judell

Back on October 25, 1946, just when postwar life was getting back to normal and shortly after *The Best Years of Our Lives* racked up a spew of Oscars, there was a to-do at Cambridge University between two philosophers. This is what occurred.

Karl Popper was lecturing at a seminar hosted by the Moral Science Club and attended by the chairman of the club, Ludwig Wittgenstein. The paper Popper was reading: "Are There Philosophical Problems?" According to Popper, there were. Wittgenstein, who felt there were not, just linguistic problems, was outraged.

Almost immediately, Karl and Ludwig began fighting, with Ludwig waving a red-hot poker he'd grabbed from a fireplace. Their feud was over the fundamental nature of philosophy. Screaming, Ludwig challenged Karl to name one moral problem. Karl responded: "Not to threaten visiting lecturers with pokers." Ludwig stormed out of the room.

This whole confrontation took place over 10 minutes. Or did it? At least this is how Popper, who later became Margaret Thatcher's favorite philosopher, wrote up the event in his autobiography. But eyewitness accounts disagree. Who's lying, and why?

Prize-winning BBC journalists and pals David Edmonds and John Eidinow decided to deconstruct and reconstruct the episode, and have succeeded admirably. The result, *Wittgenstein's Poker*, a highly entertaining yet academically astute work, has become an international bestseller translated into 12 languages and hitting No. 1 here in San Francisco last year. It's just been re-released in paperback.

Talking to both authors in two separate transatlantic phone calls recently, I asked, "Why No. 1 in San Francisco?"

Edmonds, the shorter, big-cheeked, younger one on the backcover photo, replied, "I can't really explain it. Maybe they're smarter in San Francisco than elsewhere in the States. I think it was a combination of factors. The story has two great figures attached to it. Wittgenstein and Popper are two of the great philosophers of the 20th century, and the events take place against the backdrop of both Vienna and Cambridge, two rather intriguing and enchanting European cities. But why it was so successful in San Francisco will remain something of a mystery to me."

Eidinow was less puzzled on the matter: "One can only put it down to the lively-mindedness and sophistication of San Francisco readers."

co readers."

## Clash course

But more important, how do you get 300 pages of text out of a 10-minute altercation? You explore the opponents' backgrounds, including everything that transpired in their lives until the duo first met and had this fiery clash. You include that the men were both Jewish and from Vienna, escapees from Nazism. Wittgenstein's family was extremely wealthy; Popper's less so. You delve into their personality traits, their family, their friends, and the schools of philosophy that were robust during their youth and adulthood. You even discover Ludwig designed a radiator for his sister, and you include a photo of that radiator. As far as all this goes, the authors are astoundingly successful in being both engaging and literate.

Yet suddenly, in Chapter 17, the authors note that Wittgenstein, whose homosexuality is pretty much taken for granted nowadays (Derek Jarman even made a film about him), was invited to join the secret Cambridge society the Apostles, which was then a hotbed of homosexual wit, intellectual brilliance, and carryings-on.

Edmonds and Eidinow write: "How much Wittgenstein's homosexuality/sexual ambiguity was responsible for the Apostles' unusually generous attitude to him can only be a matter of speculation, just as how active a homosexual he was remains uncertain and a matter of controversy. That he had intense feelings toward a number of young men is clear. They tended to be academically bright, immature, and disabled. That he was also tormented by those feelings, and by questions of what love meant, is also clear."

But then the authors' closing sentence shakes you up: "As neither Wittgenstein's nor Popper's sexual orientation is directly relevant to our story, the matter can be left there."

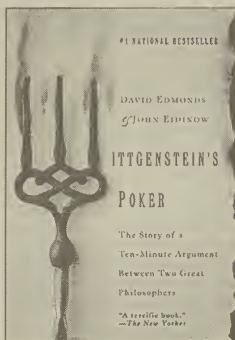
## Double standard

Now wait a second! Popper's sexuality is gone into. He had a supposedly chaste relationship with his wife, never kissed her, and he blossomed when she died. We even learn Mrs. Popper was a lousy cook: "Boiling an egg reportedly caused a great deal of excitement in the Popper household."

So then, how can Wittgenstein's sexuality be of no importance, or the fact that when he went to the cinema, he adored Westerns and Carmen Miranda? And how could Wittgenstein designing a radiator outweigh his homosexuality?

others. This generational link seems less strong today, and it would be interesting to know what Pierce thought of that, since Wallraff says he hardly changed his act over the years.

After his retirement, Pierce traveled to Europe with his mother, grew closer to longtime friend Bea Arthur, then faced death from prostate cancer. He carefully planned his funeral, at which Arthur and others spoke movingly, and which was attended by friendly "rival" female impersonator Michael Greer, among other celebrities.



According to Eidinow, "We think his sexual orientation is not relevant to either the solution to the detective story, or to his philosophy. We do describe what we know of his relationships, and that is very important in coming to terms with his character. He had a very strong character, so we do discuss his relationships with people, and that includes with other men and younger men and women."

"But one has to be very careful," Eidinow warns, "about England of that period. You have to distinguish between homosexuality and hollow eroticism. You have to look at it through the eyes of the late 19th century and early 20th century and the Bloomsbury Group. These were what you might call passionate but nonsexual relationships. They were very much an accepted part of English society at the highly intellectual, perhaps almost aristocratic level. Looking back at Wittgenstein, one would have to be very careful, because of the paucity of evidence, to simply say he was gay. I think he certainly arrived from Vienna into a hollow erotic society. That's a very different kettle of fish indeed."

Edmonds, when confronted about his pussyfooting on Wittgenstein's sex life, seems almost apologetic. "It's the one area of the book," he notes, "that colleagues have criticized and said that we should have gone into in greater depth. We felt it wasn't relevant to the story. There is a book out that talks about Wittgenstein cottaging in the woods in Vienna [with rough trade]. Other people have said, 'Well, where is the evidence for that?' It seems pretty clear that Wittgenstein was homosexual, but we felt it wasn't relevant to our storyline, and we didn't go into it."

Edmonds and Eidinow's next book is on Bobby Fischer's famous Icelandic chess match. Expect them to mention kings, castles and knights. As for the queens, they're still asking if they're relevant to the game. ▼

## Charles Pierce

◀ page 51

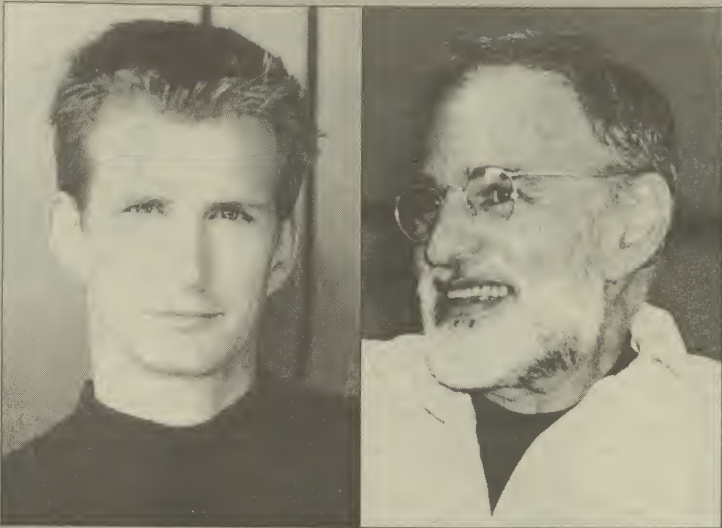
do not always read as well as they played. Another point Wallraff fails to develop is that Pierce's appeal crossed generational lines. Gay men who came of age in the '40s and those who came of age in the '60s, though of different generations, shared a common Hollywood iconography that Pierce drew on. Hence, the popularity of his impressions of Davis, Bankhead, Mae West, Joan Crawford, Jeanette MacDonald, and

According to interviews, Wallraff wrote this biography in a few months. His enthusiasm for his subject is admirable, but the book would have benefited from tighter editing. Still, it is a lovely trip down memory lane for many, and does offer some limited insight to younger gay men about what life was like 40 years ago. Fortunately, several videos exist capturing some of Pierce's most celebrated engagements. Wallraff's biography should provide an incentive to rent them, both for those unfamiliar with Pierce's talent, and for those who remember it well. ▼



## BOOKS

## Kramer on Kramer



Hosted by NYPD Blue star Bill Brochtrup (pictured above, left), *In the Life* profiles gays and lesbians who are taking activism into the streets, into their workplaces, and into the government. In one segment of the gay TV newsmagazine carried by public television, playwright/author Larry Kramer (above right), the man once dubbed "America's angriest AIDS activist," reflects on his long and varied career. *In the Life* is set to air on KQED-TV, Channel 9, on Tues., Nov. 5 at 11 p.m. ▼

## Letter daddies

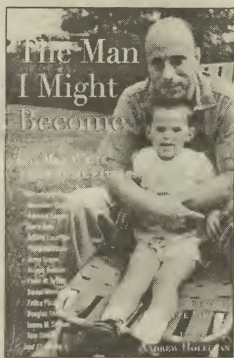
by Jim Nawrocki

*The Man I Might Become: Gay Men Write about their Fathers*; edited by Bruce Shenitz; Marlowe & Company, \$16.95

Many gay writers and artists have explored the significance of their relationships with their mothers. Fathers are a different story, one not addressed as often. The bond between father and son is invariably defined and colored by expectations about masculinity. If the mother is the nurturing presence, the father is the one who teaches his son what it means "to be a man." If the son happens to be gay, that relationship becomes problematic.

These issues are explored in *The Man I Might Become*, a new anthology that presents an array of personal recollections about what is, for many gay men, a very difficult relationship. In his introduction, editor Bruce Shenitz notes that the essays are arranged in a sequence depicting the range of "alienation toward reconciliation" with which fathers and gay sons come to terms with each other. Many of the stories are heartbreaking — tales of the icy, impenetrable distance that can come between gay men and their fathers. But there are plenty of gradations between the poles of alienation and reconciliation, and the book traverses that territory thoroughly.

Many of the contributors are acutely aware of the role that storytelling plays in their own reckoning of their fathers. This is particularly true in Jorge Ignacio Cortiñas' "The Chronology of Events," in which he journeys back to Miami to be present at the trial of his father, who is charged with cocaine smuggling. The trial, and the family reunion that results from it, become a kind of personal trial in which the son reviews the "chronology of events" in his life with his father, and passes judgment upon it. Alexander Chee's "Self-Quiz" is a poignant recol-



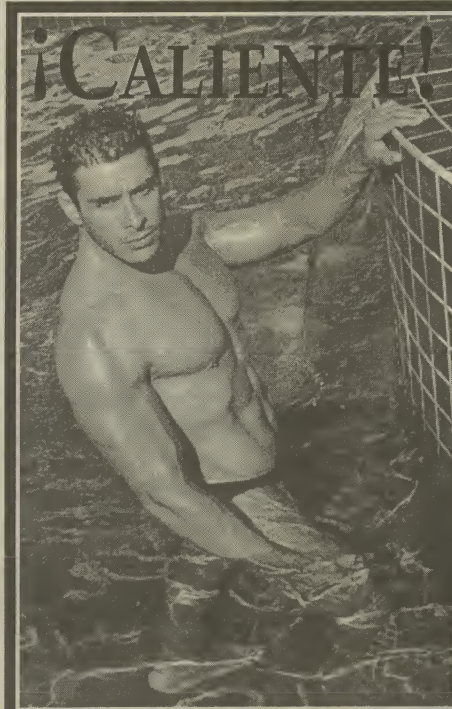
lection of a father who died young, by a son who finds himself, quite literally, walking in the same shoes.

Some of the essays deal with a subject that would no doubt make many dads squirm with nervousness — the physical fascination, even attraction, that a young gay son might feel toward his father. Jeffrey Escoffier's "Refusing My Father" is a sad portrait of a charismatic but coldly distant parent. James M. Saslow's "Daddy Was a Hot Number" tackles this issue of the son's father worship bravely and honestly. Saslow even proposes, albeit only casually, the existence of an "Orestes complex," a kind of gay corollary to Freud's infamous Oedipus complex. "[The Greeks] did know that such a tie may also bind male to male, father and son," writes Saslow. "As Orestes might have said, 'Can't help lovin' that man of mine.'"

Two noted gay poets, Alfred Corn and Mark Doty, make an appearance in the collection. Corn's "Daddy" begins with the words, "I hate you!" and chronicles all of the paradoxical and ambivalent emotions between parents and their children. Like many of the men writing for this collection, Corn's early resentment is eventually replaced by understanding and sympathy, and the process by which he undergoes this insight is beautifully rendered. Doty's essay "The Business of Birds" is reprinted from his moving 1999 memoir

Firebird.

Of course there's ample material for humor here, and Felice Picano's "Driving Mr. Picano" is a nice example. "Could driving together have been our equivalent of finding a 'neutral physical activity' (say the way other fathers and sons would play catch or watch a baseball game together)?" Picano muses. The answer, for them, is yes, and Picano's description of their road trips is as touching as it is amusing. *The Man I Might Become* is just as engaging. ▼



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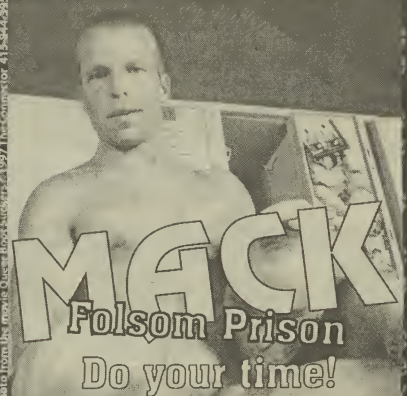
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## Dirty child comes clean

### Meet singer/songwriter Rosey

by Gregg Shapiro

Love, the slinky opening track of *Dirty Child* (Island) by Rosey, may sound familiar to you if you saw the Renee Zellweger movie *Bridget Jones's Diary* last year. The song was one of the standout tracks on the soundtrack, and introduced many people to Rosey. More music fans were introduced to Rosey during the summer of 2002, as she was given the coveted opening slot on Melissa Etheridge's concert tour. A magnetic live performer, Rosey also displays her versatility throughout her debut disc, leaning towards blue-eyed funk and soul on most tracks. "Beautiful" earns Rosey apt Fiona Apple comparisons, while her vocals are reminiscent of Natalie Merchant on the song "Cozy." "My Baby," the closing track, is a musical time-warped that allows Rosey to show off her jazzier side.

Gregg Shapiro: The "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" reference at the beginning of "Afterlife" will probably give you a headstart, but I was wondering if you've ever performed in large, mostly queer audiences.

Rosey: I did live in San Francisco for two years.

There you go.

And when I did play out, I didn't get regular soundchecks, I just

got line-checks, which is the band checking their sound in front of the whole crowd. So I would check my vocals by singing "Rainbow," and people loved that. When I was in the studio, it just kind of happened. I started singing that, and my producer stuck it onto the song, as part of the track. He said, "This is supposed to be here." I said, "You know what? Maybe you're right!"

I love that you include Klezmer music among your influences.

I come from a long line of Klezmers. Basically, my great-grandfather had a band. All of my relatives were born in Austria, but then it became Russia for a minute and then it became part of Poland. I think when it was Russia, they were all in this band. My great-grandfather used to run away from home when he was 14 or 15, and he would join these gypsy bands and go across Europe with them. When he would come back, he would teach the Jewish family band all the music that he had learned.

When he came to the US, he played Klezmer music until he died, in New York. He played every instrument. He was hoping that my grandfather would play all the instruments, but he ended up becoming a classical pianist. My grandfather toured the world with Jascha Heifitz. He was a DJ in New York. There's a lot of music in my blood.



Rosey is into those '70s artists.

Who are your influences in terms of live performance?

It's hard to say, because once you get up on stage, it's different every time. I love Sly Stone. I watch tapes of him, and he just kills me. It's those '70s artists: I'm

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## Price is right

by Jason Serinus

Leontyne Price Rediscovered  
Carnegie Hall Recital Debut  
RCA

The great American soprano Leontyne Price was 38 and at the height of her powers when she made her Carnegie Hall recital debut on February 28, 1965. Both the rehearsals and the 29-selection recital (including

four operatic encores) were recorded. Yet only two arias were ever previously released, and those received limited circulation.

Though liner notes suggest that the document was inexplicably "overlooked," part of the reason may lie with the recording itself, which lacks the sonic liquidity and technical sophistication of Price's earlier Living Stereo efforts. The piano is situated on the left, Price on the right, as though divided by the Mason-Dixon line; both are denied sufficient resonance to allow them to shine at their best.

Price also sounds a bit husky at times, not only in her usual place at the bottom of the range, but also farther up. The reason probably lies in her grueling schedule; the recital was sandwiched amidst three *Aidas*, five *Cosis*, and five *Ernanis*. (Price later trimmed her performance schedule in an attempt to preserve her instrument.) Nonetheless, in repertoire appropriate to her gifts and temperament, her voice shines and shimmers, the sensual vibrato and ravishing high notes for which she remains prized delivered in spades. Apart from a few weakly hit high Cs, Price supplies sufficient stellar vocalism to justify midnight runs to Tower.

The soprano begins with Handel; after a beautifully voiced, albeit unornamented "Care selve" (almost as exquisitely poised as her commercial recording), she assays arias from *Agrippina* and *Julius Caesar*. While Price sang *Cleopatra* as early as 1956, she could never offer the flexibility, focus, and heart-touching temperament that Sills, Swenson and others have brought to the role.



Then come eight of Brahms' *Zigeunerlieder* (Gypsy Songs). As an operatic gypsy, Price excelled in *Carmen*; here, however, her operatic grandeur and poor German diction ill serve the repertoire. Price next offers a tremendous, note-perfect "La mamma morta" from Giordano's *Andrea Chénier*. This is *echt* Price, with all the forward momentum, high drama, and shimmering highs that lead us to forgive her occasional excesses and lapses of taste.

Songs by three 20th-century gay composers, Poulenc, Barber (who championed Price early on), and Hoiby, are followed by four Spirituals. There are lovely moments here and there, as well as occasional yelps and awkward transitions; the impression that Price's forte lies with opera remains unchallenged.

Between encores at one of Price's late San Francisco recitals, an impassioned audience member shouted out, "Sock it to us, Leontyne." Price does exactly that and more in encores from *La rondine*, *Porgy and Bess*, *Adriana Lecouvreur*, and *Tosca*. Although she emphasizes punch over finesse, occasionally rushing phrases, she emits sounds so incomparably sensual and thrilling that her vocal uniqueness remains unavailable. ▼



# Boys on the side

## Exploring gay adult/youth relationships in the movies

by Gary Morris

In a February 2002 commentary for her syndicated column *Lesbian Notions*, Paula Martinac recalls her anger at browsing through her local lesbian-and-gay lending library and finding that "right alongside *Desert Hearts*, *Parting Glances* and other classic lesbian- and gay-themed movies was *The Boys of St. Vincent* — a deeply disturbing film about the sexual abuse of young boys by Catholic brothers at a Canadian orphanage in the 1970s."

Martinac is right to be angry. But she should not have been surprised that even queer librarians unthinkingly coupled homosexuality and pedophilia in this way. The notion that all gay men are either potential or practicing pedophiles has survived beyond all logic, even in queer circles, thanks to enduring homophobia, well-funded right-wing religious and political groups (and their mountain of phony scientific studies), and a phobia of adolescent sexuality.

With movies reflecting the popular mindset, they should be the last place to look for fair portrayals of an issue deemed too dicey to discuss. Logically, the same impulse that made that gay librarian put *The Boys of St. Vincent* next to *Desert Hearts* should be the driving force behind films on the subject. Right?

Wrong. A survey of movies and television shows from the last three decades shows a surprising complexity in portraying these relationships, with many variations. Typically, though not always, they do not equate homosexuality and pedophilia, instead consigning the problem to individual pathology or institutional repression, or in a few controversial cases, treating it as a socially disapproved but potentially positive force. In repudiating the equation of queer with child molester, these works seem to be doing what some segments of society cannot.

Most of the films on this subject were made outside the Hollywood mainstream, either as American Indies (*L.I.E.*, *Happiness*, *Eban and Charley*), foreign imports aimed at small art-house audiences (*Our Lady of the Assassins*, *Ernesto*, *For a Lost Soldier*, *Clay Farmers*), or sexually frank foreign or cable-TV shows (*The Boys of St. Vincent*, *Queer as Folk*). The fact that most of these works had only a limited, or in some cases no, American theatrical release suggests the level of anxiety that surrounds the issue and any portrayal of it.

### Out of control

*The Boys of St. Vincent* (Canada, 1994) follows the twin templates of institutional repression and individual pathology. Based on a 1975 scandal in Newfoundland, this three-hour made-for-TV drama shows a Catholic orphanage as a hotbed of gross physical and sexual abuse that's permitted by an omnipotent Church and cowed local police. This brutal and very timely work never succumbs to the expected gay cliché. The main abuser, Brother Lavin, is portrayed as a nutcase whose abuse of 12-year-old Kevin is driven by demons he can't control. Any temptation to read him as a frustrated queer is trumped by his later life of mar-



Brian Cox as Big John Harrigan, Paul Franklin Dano as Howie in *L.I.E.*

riage and children and by the film's unrelenting portrayal of Lavin as a straight-up though not entirely unsympathetic psychotic.

The successful straight male who's also an out-of-control predator occurs in other films in this group, most notably Todd Solondz's *Happiness* (US, 1997). Like *St. Vincent*, *Happiness* features a paragon of heterosexual virtue, here a respected psychiatrist who's at once charismatic and fatally flawed. The film treats him as a complicated character, both repugnant (in a grueling scene, he confesses his problem to his own young son) and pathetic, but certainly not gay.

Another complex portrait of a sexual predator can be found in *L.I.E.* (US, 2001). "Big John" is another "normal guy" who's also a molester. Some viewers may find the character at least partially coded as a gay stereotype: unmarried, worldly, well-off, compulsive, and bumped off in the end, just as gay men in the movies so often were. But in making Big John a real person rather than the scary shadow of the popular cliché, the film shifts the paradigm from gay/pedophile to human/monster. Like other such characters here, he regrets what he is. Told by one of his displaced boys, "You should be ashamed of yourself," he replies, "I am, I am, I always am."

The economic motive in *L.I.E.* (Big John pays and sometimes houses his victims) is also seen in some of the European films surveyed. The teenage boys in *Our Lady of the Assassins* (France, 2000) hook up with older men for money and a respite from the social chaos of Medellín, Colombia, where the film is set. The film has a queer consciousness: the lead character, a 60-year-old writer, sarcastically tells one of the boys, "Someone who's slept with over 1,000 boys isn't a fag. He's a far-out guy, right?" But the relationships here are more mutually exploitative than exploitatively queer, reactions to an impossible social situation.

tionship as positive. *Soldier* treats what happens between a 12-year-old boy (the film is based on his WW II memoir) and a Canadian soldier come to liberate his village as a romance that became a joyous memory rather than a repressed one. *Eban and Charley*, about a 29-year-old soccer coach and a 15-year-old boy, makes society the villain, thwarting what to the principals is simply a love affair. Neither film apologizes for these relationships.

Nor does *Queer as Folk*, though the "boy" is nearly of age. Showtime's highly successful gay soap opera features 20ish sexhound Brian involved from Episode 1 with 17-year-old Justin (in the British version this character was 15, so Showtime is playing it safer). Brian can be read as either sexual-

ly liberated or amoral and predatory, or perhaps both, but his affair with Justin is just one of many kinds of relationships shown, not the focus. Now, of course, as *QAF* heads into its third season, Justin is a consenting adult.

The question of what kinds of messages these works are sending to the mainstream is almost moot, since most of them never reach the mainstream. They're as marginalized in their way as their subject, staying safely under the cultural radar — playing at film festivals, in brief art-house runs, on obscure videos — in order to exist at all. When they are actually looked at, though, it's clear that their messages tend to be as complex and varied, and not particularly queer, as the taboo topic they're exploring. ▼

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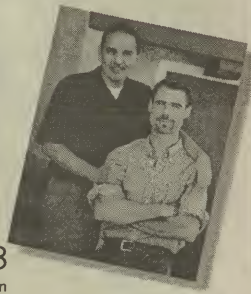
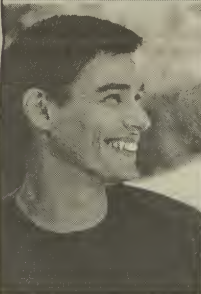
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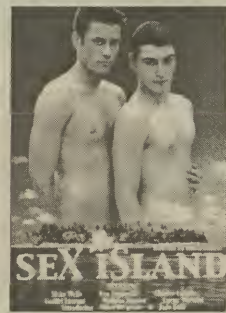
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## Paging the reel Miss Crawford

New biography traces her career

by Matthew Kennedy

Joan Crawford was not Mommie Dearest. In the expert new biography *Joan Crawford*, co-authors Lawrence J. Quirk and William Schoell dismiss Christina's efforts to forever encase Crawford in grotesque motherhood. To Quirk's and Schoell's credit, they avoid the opposite tone and steer clear of gushing fanzine hyperbole. The woman who emerges from these pages was tough, demanding, self-obsessed, horny, generous and loyal.

The subtitle of this book, "the essential biography," actually does the work a disservice. The essential biography would be longer than these 294 pages, and include exhaustive library, archive and first-person sources. This book is more

a personal reflection, as Quirk knew Crawford for many years and heard first-hand her innumerable tales of life in Hollywood.

*Joan Crawford* (University Press of Kentucky, \$27.50) is therefore all about her career, but it doesn't probe as much as it offers a chronology of her life in movies. To further boost their book's compulsive readability, the authors do a fine job of discrediting Christina with ample opposing testimony to Crawford's character. And anyone looking for potshots at Esther Williams, Marilyn Monroe and Faye Dunaway won't be disappointed.

We are first taken to Crawford's scruffy childhood in Texas and the Midwest, but soon the former Lucille LeSueur is bewitching the early moguls of Hollywood as the flapping starlet of

such light efforts as *Pretty Ladies*, *The Boob*, *Tramp Tramp Tramp* and *The Taxi Dancer*. One is reminded that she later made her share of decent movies — *Possessed* (1931 and 1947), *Grand Hotel*, *Rain*, *The Women*, *A Woman's Face*, *Mildred Pierce*, *Humoresque*, *Flamingo Road*, *Sudden Fear* and the delectably off-kilter Western *Johnny Guitar*. I've always had a soft spot for Crawford in the '50s, when she was vainly hanging onto the glamour girl image just as her key light got brighter and the camera lens got softer. It's hard to watch *The Damned Don't Cry*, *Female on the Beach* and *Autumn Leaves* and not see a hybrid of actress-woman clinging to her sexually ripe hardscrabble survivor persona. It makes for compelling screen acting.

### Assembly line

The strength of this book, with its attention on her epic career, is also its weakness. *Joan Crawford* can't help lapsing into predictable rhythms: [Fill in the blank] is given a plot summary, made, released and ranked on an unofficial scale from *Mildred Pierce* to *Trog*. Crawford [loved/hated] the movie and [loved/hated] her co-stars. The next movie is treated similarly, and the one after that. This gives the reader an appreciation for the assembly line of studio-era Hollywood, but it dims any chance of deeper insights on Crawford's life and work. The authors don't hesitate to take on her whispered bisexuality, or mention a little-known affair she had with Jimmy Stewart, but these nuggets appear only in passing. Marriages are made and broken, children are famously adopted and prove less than angelic, MGM lets Crawford go, she gets her revenge at Warner Bros., marries Pepsi nabob Al Steele, and does a sadomasochistic tango with Bette Davis in *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* It's all here, but one longs for more depth with Crawford the woman. Where *Mommie Dearest* was all domestic drama and little appreciation for Crawford the star-actress, Joan Crawford is quite the opposite.

Perhaps that is the unwritten message of Joan Crawford — that the woman and the star were one. What a startling contrast Crawford was to *Grand Hotel* co-star Greta Garbo, who spent half a century running from fame, wandering the streets of New York like a confused and frightened stray cat. Crawford couldn't have been made of more different temperament. She carried herself as though stardom was her birthright. She reveled in it, sought it and expected it, as though she forever imagined a sparkling tiara affixed to her well-coiffed scalp.

Crawford has been dead 25 years, yet her ghost defies obscurity, just as the woman did in life. Of course, her career went south and the pictures got small. Toward the end, she was reduced to changing costumes in a car. Still, she carried herself with shoulders back and head held high. Now that she's gone, we forgive her those last pitiable years, and hope

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# OUT & ABOUT

Sara Moore plays a fab circus freak in *Show Ho* at Theatre Rhinoceros. See Thursday.

## Fri 1

### EPI @ New College

The Experimental Performance Institute (EPI) kicks off its fall performance season with *vis-à-vis* and *under god*, two provocative dance theater experiments by the Erika Shuch Performance Project (ESP Project). The pieces explore issues of war, refugees, faith and spirituality. \$12-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Also Sun 2pm. 777 Valencia St. Info: 437-3487. [www.epiarts.org](http://www.epiarts.org)

### Jon Sims Center for the Arts

"Desire and Creation: An Anti-Opportunistic Dream of Motherhood," by Saun-Toy Latifa Trotter, AIR-space artist-in-residence, whose work-in-progress explores the fate of queer mothers of color. \$5-10. 8pm. 1519 Mission St. at 11th. Info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### New Conservatory Theater Center

Felice Picano's mystery comedy, "the Bombay Trunk," directed by Clay David, featuring Douglas Giorgis, Christian Heppinstall, Tiffany Hoover, Benjamin Privitt and Michelle Starrs. A murky mystery frolic. Nothing is as it seems in this black comedy. Previews \$18, previews; \$25 Wed. & Thu.; \$28 Fri. & Sat. 8pm; 2pm Sun. Thru Jan. 5, 2003. Opening night gala on Nov 9 is \$38. 25 Van Ness Ave. (at Market). Tix/info: 861-8972; [www.nctcsf.org](http://www.nctcsf.org)

### New Conservatory Theater Center

Now playing: "The Men From the Boys, Mart Crowley's world premiere sequel to "The Boys in the Band," in a world premiere production directed by NCTC's Artistic Director Ed Decker.

### Roxie Cinema

"Cinemayaat," the 6th annual Arab Film Festival, featuring films from

Palestine, a wife & husband team retrospective, Egyptian actor Nour El Sherif, a round dable discussion, and new works from the Arab film world. Tonight: "Secondary School" (Ula Thanawee), by Egyptian filmmaker Mahamed Abou Seif. \$9 (\$7 students/seniors). Also on Nov. 2 & 3. Tix/info: 564-1100; [www.aff.org](http://www.aff.org)

### La Val's Subterranean, Berkeley

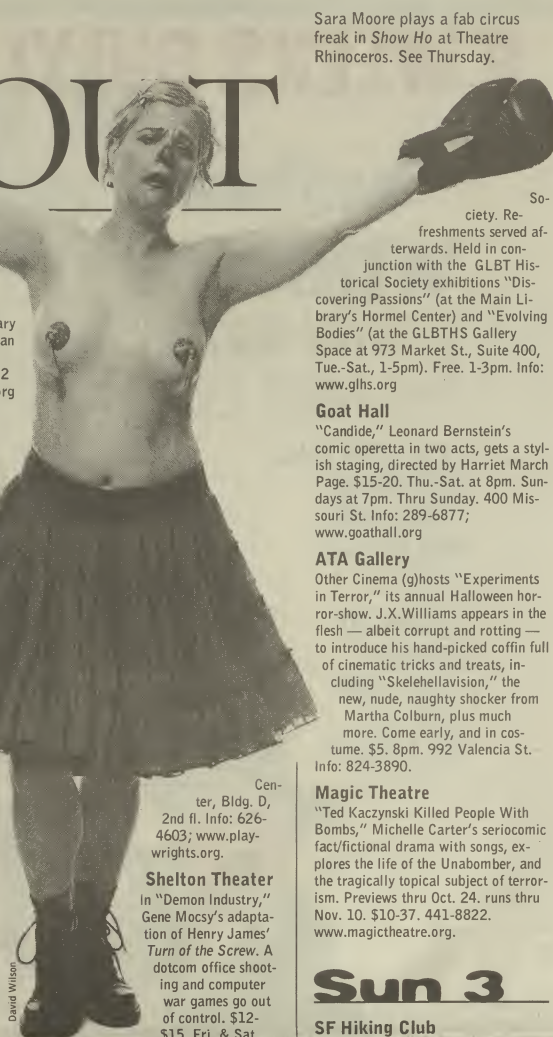
Impact Theatre presents "Working for the Mouse," written and performed by Trevor Allen, directed by Kent Nicholson. A one-man tour-de-force about Trevor's misadventures as a character/cast member in the "Happiest Place on Earth." Under layers of fur and disillusionment, Trevor yearns to shed his Pluto costume for the ultimate role: Peter Pan. \$12 (\$7 seniors/students). 8pm Fri. & Sat.; 7pm Sun. Thru Nov. 16. 1834 Euclid, Berkeley. Tix/info: 510-464-4468; [www.impacttheatre.com](http://www.impacttheatre.com)

### Yerba Buena Center

"Bay Area Now 3" presents "On Film Not Video!" showcasing the works by filmmakers who have not discarded older film technologies in favor of the new. A five-night programming series kicking off with "Epic (Abridged)," an evening with Christian Bruno and Charles Kremenak, two local artists performing live experimental soundtracks to Super 8 "digest" versions of films such as "I Was a Teenage Werewolf" and "The French Connection." Also Natalija Vekic's surreal, extravagant fairy tale, "The Girls with the Pear Suspended." "Bay Area Now 3" is the spectacular exhibition of fascinatingly diverse visual works of 30 local artists, ranging from Jona Frank's video stills of military high school students, to Kota Ezawa's refracted imagery from the O.J. Simpson trial, Shaun O'Dell's revisioning of Americana icons, and other stuff. \$6 (\$3 seniors/students). 7:30pm Exhibit runs thru Jan 12. 701 Mission St. Info: 978-2700; [www.YerbaBuenaArts.org](http://www.YerbaBuenaArts.org)

### Playwrights' Center of SF

"DramaRama Festival 2002," part of the continuing series of staged readings. Tonight: "Tom, Dick, and Harriet" by Donald C. Drake, directed by Carl Thelin. \$5-\$10. 7:30pm. Blue Bear Performance Hall, Fort Mason



Center, Bldg. D, 2nd fl. Info: 626-4603; [www.playwrights.org](http://www.playwrights.org)

### Shelton Theater

In "Demon Industry," Gene Mocsy's adaptation of Henry James' *Turn of the Screw*. A dotcom office shooting and computer war games go out of control. \$12-\$15. Fri. & Sat. 8pm. Sundays at 2pm. Thru Nov. 17. 533 Sutter St. at Powell. Info: [www.bellaunion.org](http://www.bellaunion.org)

## Sat 2

### Koret Auditorium, Main Library

The GLBT Historical Society presents "First Time in Print." Come hear the pioneers of queer publishing tell their stories of how they helped an emerging queer community break silence by finding its voices. Included on the panel are Bob Ross, founder and publisher of the *Bay Area Reporter*, the nation's longest-running gay newspaper; Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, co-founders of Daughters of Bilitis, the first lesbian rights organization, and the original publishers of its periodical, *The Ladder*; and Don Lucas, the only surviving co-founder of the Pan-Graphic Press, begun in 1954 as the information arm of the Mattachine

Society. Refreshments served afterwards. Held in conjunction with the GLBT Historical Society exhibitions "Discovering Passions" (at the Main Library's Hormel Center) and "Evolving Bodies" (at the GLBTHS Gallery Space at 973 Market St., Suite 400, Tue-Sat, 1-5pm). Free. 1-3pm. Info: [www.glhs.org](http://www.glhs.org)

### Goat Hall

"Candide," Leonard Bernstein's comic operetta in two acts, gets a stylish staging, directed by Harriet March Page. \$15-20. Thu-Sat. at 8pm. Sundays at 7pm. Thru Sunday. 400 Missouri St. Info: 289-6877; [www.goathall.org](http://www.goathall.org)

### ATA Gallery

Other Cinema (g)hosts "Experiments in Terror," its annual Halloween horror-show. J.X. Williams appears in the flesh — albeit corrupt and rotting — to introduce his hand-picked coffin full of cinematic tricks and treats, including "Skelehelavision," the new, nude, naughty shocker from Martha Colburn, plus much more. Come early, and in costume. \$5. 8pm. 992 Valencia St. Info: 824-3890.

### Magic Theatre

"Ted Kaczynski Killed People With Bombs," Michelle Carter's seriocomic fact/fictional drama with songs, explores the life of the Unabomber, and the tragically topical subject of terrorism. Previews thru Oct. 24. runs thru Nov. 10. \$10-37. 441-8822. [www.magictheatre.org](http://www.magictheatre.org)

## Sun 3

### SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for a Frog Lake and Poverty Flat hike. Spend a day in Henry Coe State Park and enjoy rugged terrain and extensive vistas. A moderately strenuous hike with a 2,100-ft. elevation gain. Meet 8:15am under the large Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Info: 487-6410; [www.sfhiking.com](http://www.sfhiking.com)

### Club Rendez-Vous

Join Mark Paladini and Club Rendez-Vous for a fund day of "Football and Terrific Toys," a benefit for Mama Reinhardt's "2002 Toys for 2002 Kids" program and Sunburst Projects for children affected by AIDS/HIV. Watch the fabulous 49er's battle the Oakland Raiders, enjoy the buffet and halftime entertainment. Bring a new/unwrapped toy for a needy child at Christmas. No cover. Starts at 12:45pm. 1312 Polk St. Info: Mark Paladini, 292-9808; Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt, 925-829-2621; [www.sunburstprojects.org](http://www.sunburstprojects.org)

## Calendare by Mark Mardon

## Meditate on this

So I was in Canada this fall at this meditation retreat called Silent Ground on tiny Read Island in the Georgia Strait, squeezed between the British Columbia mainland and Vancouver Island, and among the other half-dozen or so participants was this sweet kid everyone called JP, a good-looking 23-year-old poet/martial artist from Massachusetts, straight but sensitive, with an actual college degree in poetry, and when we weren't sitting on cushions in the meditation hall, listening to our breaths and moving the chi around through our bodies, or doing tai chi and chi kung exercises outdoors among the giant cedars, firs, maples and whatnot, or sitting silently at the meal table eating brown rice for breakfast, lunch and dinner, we got to hang out a bit and get to know one another.

At first I thought JP was going to stay closed off, because he was very inner focused during practice and mostly avoided direct eye contact. But then we took a long walk down the logging road to the only store on the island, and he opened up and told me some of his life story, including how when he'd broken up with his last girlfriend, he'd written her a farewell poem and stuck it up on her wall with a wad of gum. Later he learned she never bothered to read it — her way of getting at him. We talked back and forth about our lives, very openly, and by the end of our walk we were firm friends. But right after that came a week of silence, so we didn't exchange many words. He was a real hard worker, doing chores in exchange for lessons, since he was basically broke and searching for his path in life. He helped drain and rebuild the out-house sewage systems. He cooked all the meals during our silent week, and one night dazzled us with his squash casserole. He was quick and efficient and unfailingly polite, and everybody liked him. He also had the best tai chi form, since he'd studied martial arts since he was a young kid. In meditation, while I shifted and squirmed on my cushion, and coughed and cleared my throat far too often, he sat up unmoving, perfectly silent, the image of the Buddha. It's not that his legs weren't in agony, he told me on our walk, but he was determined to break through the pain.

While my retreat lasted only two weeks, JP was at Silent Ground for the long haul. He'd arrived weeks earlier, and was planning to stay on after I left. His aims post-retreat were murky. He was thinking of heading to Hawaii, hopefully to work on a plantation run by a couple of friends, but wasn't sure how well he'd be received. As I stood at the foot of the dock, waiting to board the boat and begin my island-hopping journey back home, JP, who's not a real big guy, gave me a couple of huge bear hugs. I told him that if he ever came to San Francisco, he'd be warmly welcomed.

On the long Greyhound/ferry ride to Vancouver, I got to thinking maybe I'd deceived my new friend, and myself. How warmly would San Francisco receive JP, a penniless poet on a spiritual quest? At one time, of course, the city would have sung hosannahs in his honor upon his arrival. But now?

This city was made great by people like JP, dreamers, searchers, poets, musicians. Sure, there were the gold miners, developers, financiers, traders and merchants, but except for the miners, the rest have been mostly colorless, mostly venal, mostly greedy. It was the artists who gave the city its cool character.

Now the city wants to squeeze out renters. If you're not a property owner, forget it, you're nothing. If you don't own, you just don't belong. You get evicted, marginalized, treated with contempt. The haves want the whole damn pie; they set out with agro vengeance to reshape the city in their own image, making it a bland, banal haven for the elite. The have-nots, the JPs of the world... well, they just have to keep moving on. San Francisco no longer offers welcome mats to spiritual seekers and poets. ▼



Rowena Richie plays in the ESP Project's *vis-à-vis* and *under god* at New College Theater. See Friday.





Entertainment and disability go hand in hand as Charlene Curtiss and Joanne Petroff of Light Motion and others perform in *Ever Widening Circle* at Yerba Buena Center. See Thursday.

#### Marines Memorial Theater

"Stomp," the trash-can clanging, joyfully cacophonous percussive performance show, continues thru Jan. 5. \$25-\$49. Tue.-Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 5pm & 9pm, Sun. at 3pm & 7pm. 609 Sutter St. Tix/info: (877) 771-6900; www.stomponline.com

#### Blake's at Boundary Oak, Walnut Creek

Diablo Valley AIDS Center hosts its "1st Annual Jazz Brunch" to raise funds for the only food distribution program in Contra Costa County for people with HIV/AIDS and their families. Entertainment by Pure Honey, with Jazz singer Alicia Daniels and her husband/pianist/arranger Dan Daniels. 10:30am hosted reception with mimosas, bloody marys, and silent auction; 11am champagne brunch. \$50. 3800 Valley Vista Rd., Walnut Creek. Tix/info: Bob Hamilton, 925-686-3816; www.dvac.org

#### 550 Barneveld

"Sundance Saloon," Country-western dance lessons from 6-7:30pm, followed by open country-western dancing until 11pm. \$5. 21+ w/D. Between Oakdale & Industrial in Bayshore Blvd. corridor. Info: sundancesaloon.org

## Mon 4

#### QComedy @ The Center

"QComedy Showcase," Monday Night Gay Comedy, hosted by Mike Uryga, with Guy Brannum and that wild, wacky Bridget Schwartz among other hilarious laughmeisters. \$8-\$15 sliding. Doors open 7:30pm; show at 8pm. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Tix/info: 865-5633; www.harveymilk.org; www.QComedy.com

#### QuickTricks Bridge Club @ MCC

Every Monday and Tuesday evening, the QuickTricks Bridge Club offers duplicate pairs events. The club is affiliated with the American Contract Bridge League and has been continually in operation at MCC since 1979. The Monday game is open to all

bridge players. The Tuesday game is for non-Life Masters only. Some weeks have special events, like Club Championships or North American Open Pairs Qualifiers. 7pm. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St. (at 18th St.). Info: www.quicktricks.org

## Tue 5

#### GLBT Historical Society

"Evolving Bodies" a visual arts and archival exhibit, explores the shifting expression of physical desires in images and words. Free. 1-5pm Tues-Sat, thru Nov. 15. Gallery Space, Suite 400, 973 Market St. Info: 777-5455; www.glbthistory.org

## Wed 6

#### Bazaar Cafe

Kenni & friends guest-host the "GLBT Songwriter Series." Those who saw Kenni in early October at the Temescal Arts Center in Oakland know they're in for a treat, because she's one of the finest singer/songwriters in the Bay Area. Also featuring Josh Zucker, Josh Greenberg, Andrew Freeman, Anne Schragger, Trisha Varley and the fabulous Terese Taylor. No cover (donations encouraged). 7pm. On California St. btwn. 21st and 22nd avenues. Info: 831-5620

#### ODC Theatre

"Pilot 39: Proof" showcases the choreographic talents of six new Bay Area artists: Nawaaz Ahmed, Nora Cihpaumire, Meadow Leys, Tim O'Donnell, and Jenny Selgrath. 8pm. \$10-\$12 sliding. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Info: 863-9834.

#### SF Arts Commission Gallery

"Construct 2: The Second Annual Installation Award Show" includes installations by Haein Kang (a strange darkened rope & pulley home environment) and duo Leonardogillesfleur's video/architectural interactive space. Free. 11am - 5:30pm. Wed-Sat. thru Dec. 7. 401 Van Ness Ave. (at McAlister). Info: 554-6080; sfac.sfsu.edu/gallery.

#### New Conservatory Theatre

Nicky Silver's "the Food Chain" about love, lust, and lunch, premieres. Directed by Christopher Jenkins. \$15-20. 8pm. Gala opening Nov. 9 is \$25. Sundays at 2pm. thru Dec. 1. 25 Van Ness at Market. Tix/info: 861-8972 www.nctcsf.org.

#### A Clean Well-Light Place for Books

Author Michael Chabon, Pulitzer Prize winner for *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*, reads from a first young adult novel. 601 Van Ness Ave. Info: 441-6670.

## Thu 7

#### 'Ba-da-BINGO' @ MCC

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence present "Ba-da-BINGO," with a Jackie-O theme. The player dressed in the best Jackie-O costume wins a special \$50 cash prize. Your \$12 admission gets you 10 bingo games with cash prizes up to \$250 per game, special gifts, and a chance to win a DVD player or digital camera. Doors open 7pm. 150 Eureka St. (at 18th St.). Info: www.TheSisters.org

#### Yerba Buena Center

"Ever Widening Circle," an evening of entertainment celebrating art and disability, featuring jazz sensation Wesla Whitfield, comedian Chris Fonseca, the Light Motion dance company directed by Charlene Curtiss, playwright/poet/actor Lynn Manning, and concert pianist Valerie Zamora. \$15-\$100. 7pm. 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St.). Tix: 510-251-4370.

#### Theatre Rhinoceros

Preview: "Show Ho," showcasing the comedic circus talents of Sara Moore in her world premiere one-woman show, directed by John Fisher. It's the story of Rhonda Hammerstein, a charming dork from Hell's Kitchenette, a clown in a low-rent circus embracing all those too weird to live anywhere else. \$15-\$25. 8pm (upm Sun.). Opens Nov. 9. Thru Dec. 7. 2926 16th St. Tix/info: 861-5079; www.theherino.org.

#### Booksmith

"Footsteps in the Fog" includes a slide show and book signing by authors Jeff Kraft and Aaron Leventhal, who've documented a look at San Francisco through the films of Alfred Hitchcock. Free. 7pm. 1644 Haight St. Info: 863-8688;

## WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon  
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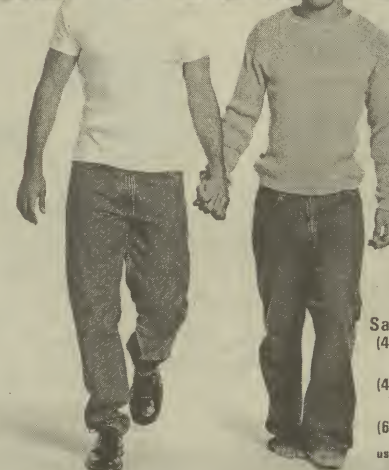
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Saun-Toy Latifa Trotter performs *Desire and Creation: An Anti-Oppressorist Dream of Motherhood* at Jon Sims Center for the Arts. See Friday.



# Summer in Vermont

by Robert Julian

*Avoidance* by Michael Lowenthal; Graywolf Press, \$16

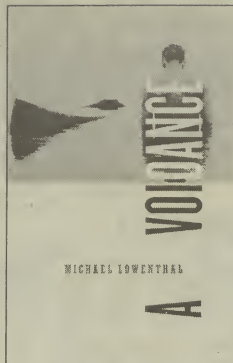
Michael Lowenthal's second novel, *Avoidance*, explores the insular world of a Vermont boys' summer camp through the eyes of a 24-year-old camp counselor named Jeremy. Ironwood Camp was the Valhalla of Jeremy's youth, a magical place where he spent many adolescent summers. His obsession for the place resulted in his annual summer return as a camp counselor, both before and after receiving his teaching degree from Harvard. But in what will be his last

year at Ironwood, Jeremy must repress his desire to consummate a sexual relationship with the troubled 14-year-old camper named Max.

The themes and the plot of *Avoidance* are complex and potentially compelling. Author Lowenthal sets up a series of conflicts for his characters that could be great fodder for both dramatic tension and character revelation. But Lowenthal's skills as a novelist are not quite up to the task. The Achilles' heel of Lowenthal's work is his failure to provide the requisite character development that would bring the potential of this story to fruition.

Jeremy is presented as a relatively asexual heterosexual. He

had four collegiate affairs with women and one unsuccessful fling with a man. Presented as a self-appointed father-figure for his students and campers, the reason for Jeremy's sexual obsession with Max is never made clear. And Max, unconsciously seductive but apparently heterosexual, lacks the requisite presentation that would justify not one, but two adult sexual obsessions at camp. Max's actual molestation comes at the hands of the camp director, Charlie—a key character who remains enigmatic for the course of the novel. What does Charlie feel for Max? What motivates him? What kind of human being is he? Lowenthal leaves these crucial questions unanswered.



*Avoidance* also contains a subplot that dwells on the time Jeremy spent studying and living with an Amish family in Pennsylvania, but the Amish characters are even more two-dimensional than those

at Ironwood. Lowenthal attempts to construct some sort of dramatic parallel between the world of the Amish and that of Ironwood, but the thematic leitmotif between the two remains obscure. The author's failure to deliver a more fully realized cast of characters makes *Avoidance* a frustrating read. The plot is intriguing and the narrative voice is intelligent, but Lowenthal's underdevelopment makes it hard to establish a strong connection with the novel. ▼

Lowenthal reads from *Avoidance* on Thursday, Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. With Paul Lisicky.

# Of men and boys

by Robert Julian

*Edinburgh* by Alexander Chee; Picador, \$13

Compelling and disturbing, dark and hopeful, Alexander Chee's *Edinburgh* is a novel that walks a tightrope of regret and remembrance with great skill. It is the story of a bi-racial Korean-American boy who grows up in a small Maine coastal town. The story begins when Aphias Zhe, a junior high school student, begins singing in a boys' choir led by Big Eric, a middle-aged married man. The choir goes away for two weeks to a summer camp, where Big Eric's practice of sexually molesting his young soloists expands to include 18 boys.

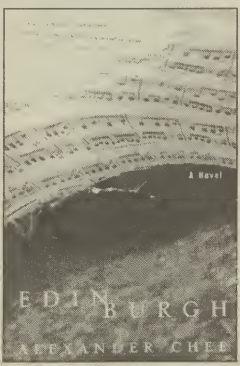
Aphias manages to navigate the sexual terrain with less damage than many of his peers because he knows he is gay. In fact, he is hopelessly in love with Peter, a 13-year-old soloist who is not gay. But Peter's molestation by the choir-master leaves psychological scars he will never be able to heal. Aphias carries on an ongoing sexual relationship with a third boy, Zach,

throughout high school, but both Zach and Peter are doomed not to survive adolescence. The cumulative impact of Aphias' own homosexuality, the deaths of his closest friends, and Big Eric's sexual molestation put *Edinburgh*'s central character into a mental tailspin that results in several suicide attempts.

What is most remarkable about Chee's writing is his ability to portray Aphias as a contemplative soul who finds metaphors that help him cope with his own

loss and depression. *Edinburgh* is not a depressing book, and its treatment of intergenerational sexual relationships between males is neither judgmental nor sensational. The story takes an unexpected turn when it leaps forward to Aphias' adult years as a high school swimming coach in Maine. A particular young man, someone who was just an infant when Aphias was a choirboy, re-enters his life in an unexpected and disturbing way.

Originally released last year by a small press, *Edinburgh* made enough of an impression that the book is being re-released by a larger publishing house, and the author is embarking on a six-city promotional tour. For the publisher, and the reader, *Edinburgh* is certainly worth the investment of time and money. Alexander Chee writes with heart and intelligence, and he illuminates complex themes with a graceful and restrained prose style. ▼



# Killing them softly

by Robert Julian

*Lullaby* by Chuck Palahniuk; Doubleday, \$24.95

Chuck Palahniuk's fourth novel, *Lullaby*, has a few flaws. The storyline is preposterous, and one of the two main characters is a tired stereotype of a Realtor, cut from the same cloth as Cruella deVille. But

the author of *Fight Club* once again produces a work of considerable originality, with a lean prose style and a deliciously mean sense of humor that will cause readers to laugh out loud. *Lullaby* is smart and snappy, and filled with the kind of malicious intent that qualifies it as a *bona fide* guilty pleasure.

The lives of real estate agent Helen Hoover Boyle and reporter Carl Streator are destined to collide over a children's book: *Poems and Rhymes from Around the World*. They have both discovered, through personal tragedies, that on page 27 of this book, there is an eight-line poem that kills. When read aloud, with or without intention, the person to whom the poem is being read drops dead immediately. And if the poem is memorized, when the lines are thought with malicious intent, the thinker can kill the object of his thoughts. Helen and Carl set out to seek and destroy all 500 original copies of the book. But as they cross the country searching for the text, they can't stop using the poem to eliminate people. Helen has even made a cottage industry of her power by becoming a poet-

ic hit-woman for the government. She insists on being paid in diamonds and other precious jewelry.

*Lullaby* is told in the first person, from the point of view of Carl Streator, the desperate and depressed reporter. He's lonely, overworked, and like Helen, he hasn't had sex in 18 years. Carl is carrying so much barely controlled anger that, when he realizes the power granted by the poem, he can't stop himself from ridding the world of jerks and idiots. He turns to Helen for help, in an act roughly analogous to asking a fox to watch the chicken coop. All the dark humor of *Lullaby* flows from this set-up.

At the end of *Lullaby*, Carl rides off into the sunset with a male cop, who is actually a female inhabiting the body of a man. This plot twist seems perfectly appropriate in context, and should give you some idea of *Lullaby*'s over-the-top, nihilistic tone. But unlike the dark style of Bret Easton Ellis, Chuck Palahniuk writes with such wicked good humor you'll look forward to every bizarre plot twist that comes your way. ▼





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## Meet Rosey

◀ page 54

just amazed whenever I watch Janis Joplin and Jimi Hendrix. I love their performances.

You watch those recordings of Woodstock or other outdoor arenas, and they don't have that many lights. It's not like this big show. They are just oozing so much passion. They are the show. I'm hoping that I can be real, and pull whatever I can out of myself, and

try to touch people.

In your bio, there's an interesting quote about "getting dirty." Do you think it's possible to avoid getting dirty on the way to having a successful career?

I do, if you have a very strong mind, a very disciplined mind. If you remember not to take anything personally, and if you're just pure of heart. Then I think you have a real fighting chance. But it's really hard to stay in that state of mind. ▼





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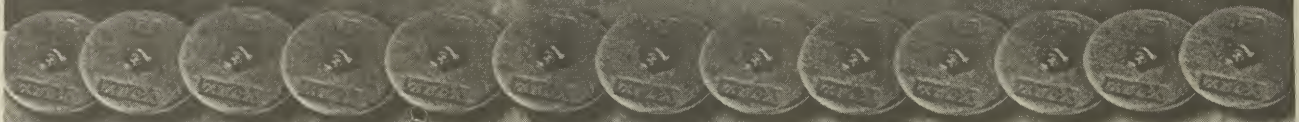
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PHOTO: HOT HOUSE

## Changes in store for Mr. SF Leather 2003

by Mister Marcus

The Mr. San Francisco Leather 2003 contest committee last week announced major changes in the competition for the coming year. To make a long story short, the contest will take place at the Eagle Tavern on Saturday, March 8. The winner will go to Chicago to compete for the IML 2003 title in May 2003. He will have only a six-month reign with the title, which will end in September 2003. Hotel accommodations, airfare to Chicago and other expenses will be awarded to him.

On Saturday night, September 27, Mr. San Francisco Leather 2004 will be chosen to compete at IML 2004 in May of that same year. This strategy will give the winner ample time (from September to May) to prepare for the competition, network, fundraise and whatever else is necessary.

The Mr. San Francisco Leather Contest committee is in the process of becoming a 501 (C3)



The crowd hoisted these "GRRRLLL" signs when outgoing Mr. Hayes Valley Leather Michael Schaefer gave his step-down speech. Schaefer is known for his constant use of the "grrrrll" word in conversations.

charitable event, which it has been for all practical purposes for the past several decades, but without the official designation. A website is in the process of being created. If you're planning to enter the competition, you can go for it in March or wait until September. Stay tuned for developments and details.

### First out of the gate

The first contender for Mr. San Francisco Leather 2003 was chosen last Saturday night, October 26 as Michael Schaefer stepped aside from the Mr. Hayes Valley Leather 2002 title in what he described in his 14-minute step-aside speech as "the realization of a dream" (being able to compete at IML). Proving that you should always be aware of things you say, Michael, whose favorite saying is "Grrrrlll" (girl) was quite taken aback when, during his speech, dozens of people began waving yellow signs with "Grrrrlll" in black letters. To say he was "undone" would be an understatement. Michael was very appreciative of the help received from various individuals during his year with the title, with special emphasis on the diversity of the leather, drag and court communities all supporting his efforts.



There was only one person man enough to step forward to compete for the title, and that was Michael Dumont, a 12-year leather veteran who after an in-depth personal interview (a whopping 35 minutes!), leather image, jock and speech categories managed to accumulate enough qualifying points (65% of the total available) by the judges, Alan Selby, Mama Reinhardt, Tony Koester and Fernando Robles. I was happy to join the panel.

The contest and show was MC'd by Lenny Broberg (who managed to hold his own with hecklers) and entertainment was provided by Snatch, Chablis and Donna Sachet. Supervisor Mark Leno materialized to deliver a SF Board of Supervisors certificate to Michael Schaefer, which was viewed as a much-deserved honor.

Mr. Dumont will have the option to compete for Mr. SF Leather 2003 or 2004. There was much whooping and hollering in Hayes Valley long after the contest was over.

### The scam artist(s) continue

For the past several years, a person or persons has been con-

next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Weekend, November 1-2

At the Hole in San Diego, a new Ms. San Diego Leather will be chosen on Saturday night, preceded by a Meet & Greet on Friday night with a stellar cast of judges.

In Hartford, Connecticut, the Hartford Colts MC stage their Mr. Connecticut Leather 2003 contest with more stellar leather personalities on the judging panel. Hey, let's face it. The Sash Rash Group is voluminous!

### Sunday, November 3

SF Leather Daddy Tony Koester celebrates his birthday (but which one?) today with a food drive party for Project Open Hand from 1600 to 2000 and a \$7 beer/soda bust, raffles, entertainment and (get this) spankings! Bring canned goods.

### Weekend, November 7-10

Lots going on. In Palm Springs, it's the Mr. Palm Springs Leather Contest. In Fort Lauderdale, the Mr. Florida Leather Contest. In Ottawa, Canada, the Mr. Ottawa-Hull Leather Contest. In San Jose,

the Mr. and Ms. Santa Clara County Leather Contests, and at the Cell Block Bar in Chicago, it's the Mr. International Rubber 2003 contest. In Amsterdam, it's the Women at Amsterdam Leather Pride (WALP) celebrating their 5th anniversary. Locally, the Cal Eagles MC annual Russian River weekend run departing at 1000 in the morning on Saturday.

### Tuesday, November 12

Bondage Buddies gather at 933 Harrison for their plunder and pillage scenario. Doors open from 2000 to 2300. \$10 donation. You know the rules. If not click on [www.blowhuddies.com/bondage.html](http://www.blowhuddies.com/bondage.html).

### Weekend, November 13-16

Leatherfest Week in New York with four days of fetish fun, workshops, leather market by GMSMA.

### Weekend, November 15-17

Mr. Pistons Leather contest at Pistons Bar in North Long Beach. No details at my deadline.



## POLKSTRASSE

# Raising funds, raising hell

by Sweet Lips

**H**ey, Kenny Allison! Remember when we took a bus trip from the Kokpit to Juanita's? The Sausalito Historical Society (P.O. Box 352, Sausalito, CA 94966) is having a fundraiser for Juanita, who's now in her late 70s. She sure was a hell-raiser, and I worked with her at Sally Stanford's Valhalla, so if you can, send a tax-deductible contribution. How's the broken leg healing, Kenny?

Jimmy "Marc" Quinn will be celebrating his birthday at the Cinch Saloon on Polk St. on Sun-

day, Nov. 10, starting at 2 p.m., so don't miss the great gala party, catered by their restaurant, fabulous food. The Cinch now has the popular Ronnie Lynn on the plank, weekday mornings from 6-12.

Richard and Mario of Cinch fame have opened The Metro bar in the Castro. Good luck, fellas.

David Kapp of Club RendezVous will be in NYC celebrating his birthday on Sat., Nov. 2. He has tickets for six shows, lucky him!

Remember, Karaoke at the Club R-V, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. on Weds., and the fabulous 'Til Friday shows

at 10:30 p.m. and Midnight. They're hilarious, especially

Alexis as your cocktail waitress. She moves fast.

You can also catch me, "The Lips," Tues.,

Thurs. and Suns. 'til

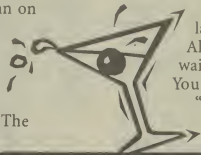
2 p.m. at the popular Club

RendezVous.

Congratula-

tions to the new Mr. and Ms. Gay SF, Lance and Manley, good luck on your reign!

Happy Halloween to all! ▼



**Cocktail Hour**

## Out There

◀ page 42

Exhibit B: *People*, whose profile of *Running with Scissors* memoirist Augusten Burroughs waits until the final paragraph to reveal, "As Burroughs savors his critical and financial success, his home life has been transformed as well, thanks to his partner of two years, graphic designer Dennis Pilsits, 47, who shares a Manhattan apartment with him." So that explains the photo of two well-fed men wearing designer eyeglasses, legs entwined, on the sofa.



Burroughs, Pilsits snuggle at home



Spacey never stepped foot in F.I.

Meanwhile, an end-of-summer item in *New York* magazine's "Intelligencer" column reported that closeted actor Kevin Spacey "has been making the scene in the Fire Island Pines." According to the column, Spacey rented a beach house that came complete with gym, butler and gardener.

Well! Spacey wasted no time in replying with a righteously indignant letter to the editor in which he insisted, "I have never been to Fire Island — not even as a visitor," and "I have been busy this summer working at a small

amusement park in Boise, Idaho." (In a coy P.S., Spacey conceded, "I'm not really in Boise. Just in case you believe everything you read.") Still, *someone* is playing fast and loose with the truth.

Finally, props to all 310 lbs. of Esera Tuaolo, former NFL nose guard who came out to the *New York Times* last week. "How do you explain a 34-year-old veteran of the defensive line, living in a suburban house with his adopted 23-month-old twins and the man he describes as his husband?" wonders the *Times*. We call it *Life with Fat her*. ▼



Esera Tuaolo packs a lot of muscle

## Joan Crawford

◀ page 56

she forgave the powers-that-be who wasted her talents. Time has proven her durability. Don't we love the élan, the chutzpah and the sheer force of character that makes for such rare beings as Joan

Crawford?

Quirk and Schoell are two film gentlemen-scholars who have at last repaired the maligned Crawford legacy. She doesn't deserve the easy jokes begot by Christina's ulterior attacks. At the end of the movie *Mommie Dearest*, the disinherited Christina (played by the odd Diana Scarwid) alludes that

she'll have the final say on her Gorgon of a mother. Quirk and Schoell made sure that didn't happen, and they are to be saluted for their effort at fair appraisal. Enough time has passed to prove that Joan Crawford doesn't deserve wire hangers. She was and is an enduring star, one of the great ones. ▼

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

tacting leather people with collect phone calls claiming to be someone in a strange city who has been mugged, robbed and in need of cash to fly back home. Some people have been taken in and have sent large amounts of money via Western Union to the culprit(s).

It happened again twice in the past seven days. A week ago, Brock Kolivas of HBK1 Media was allegedly the person in dire straits when in fact, Brock was not. Last Sunday morning, Oct. 27, Cynthia Laird, News Editor of the Bay Area Reporter received a collect phone call from someone claiming to be Bob Goldfarb, president of the

Board of Directors of SMMILE. While Cynthia and Bob know each other, it's not an acquaintance that would warrant a \$500 money transfer. Cynthia refused the collect call and that was that.

From time to time and always whenever these incidents occur, members of the leather press have put the word out via their publications and in Email to leather folk they know. Should you receive such a call, the SF Police Department has advised you get a phone number from the caller and then report it to them, and they will in turn contact authorities in that city and possibly apprehend the culprit(s). Don't be taken in. I would not publish the names of those in our community that were burned by these calls.

Stay alert.

It is believed the scam artists glean items in print and on the Internet about various leather titleholders and/or individuals and tries to extort money in their name. Be cautious. Do not accept these calls and certainly, do not send them any money. You have been warned!

### Mea culpa

Errors in last week's column. It was not Chablis who co-chaired the Mr. and Ms. Gay SF 2002 contest with Jason Ladd. It was Faberge! And Mr. New Jersey Leather will not, repeat, not compete at IML, but will compete at Mid-Atlantic Leather in January. And guess what? The world did not end because of these errors. ▼

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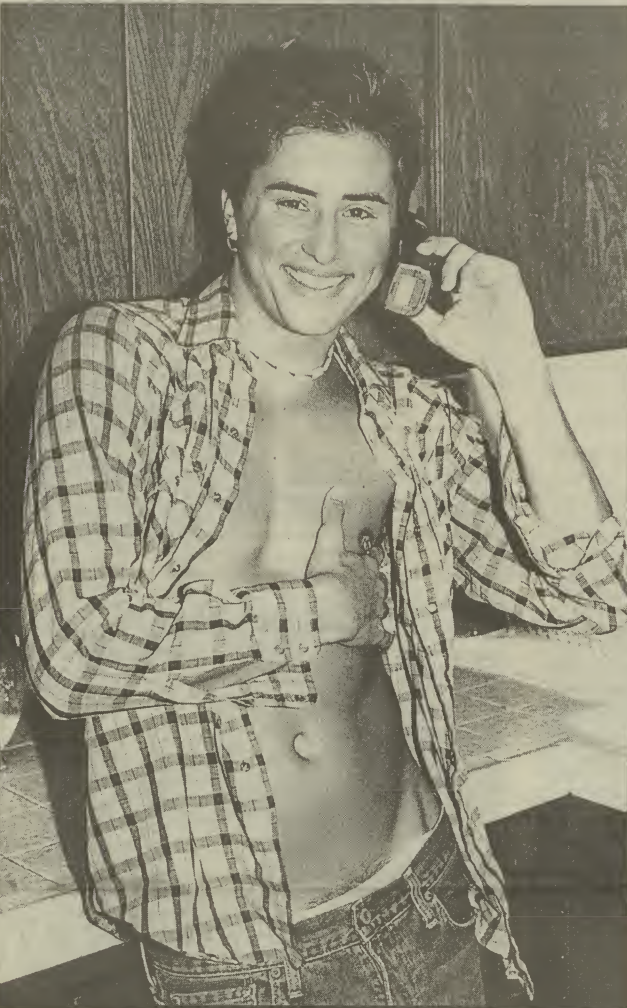
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## PARTING GLANCES

**Andrew @ The Eagle Sat Sept 28**  
You smiled bright saying "hi". I was stupid and shy. Will from Portland with his leather coat. Can we try again? Be in SF for two weeks soon. Call please. ☎ 72108

**~Pets Unlimited Oct 5 9pm~**  
You: cute guy with friend picking up her dog. Me: cute guy with friend picking up her dog. Let's get together without the dogs and friends! Woof! ☎ 72109

**Richmond Bart 5:20, Sun, Oct 6**  
You in blue, we spoke, you gave me a cert's "with retsyn". Prelude to a kiss? I'd like to know you. ☎ 72225

**Derrick From Oakland**  
Met you at the gym in S.F. on Sunday, Oct 13. You were there before work. We talked about your tattoo. Would like to meet again. Call me. B. ☎ 72226

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**\*Mature Men\***  
WLM 46, 6', 165lbs. ISO older men for lots of cuddling, kissing & oral pleasure. Poss ltr. Husky, facial hair, non-gym, loner A+. Not into gay scene of lifestyle. ☎ 72110

**Beefy Guy Wanted**  
Professional, HIV-, stocky guy wants to meet sweet beefy guy for dates eroticism & possible ltr. No married nor committed guys, please. ☎ 72111

**Stop! I'm The One Your Looking For**  
GLM, 31, 5'7", 195lbs, sexy, cute, football player, looking for masc. btm. Brn/hair/eyes, shaved head w/goatee. Drug/disease free. ISO monogamous ltr w/GM top 30-42. Intellectual, passionate. Fun times is your reward. ☎ 72112

**Lean Built Hairy Fun & Maybe Romance**  
Very together, masculine, easy going man seeking a fit, hairy, 45+, extremely oral man into nips, endless touching, caressing, kissing. I am healthy Poz, oral, fun, interesting, affectionate, passionate. If you like mature, muscular, hairy men, I am 50, 5'11", 185. Maybe dating if chemistry, sex, and interests match up. ☎ 72113

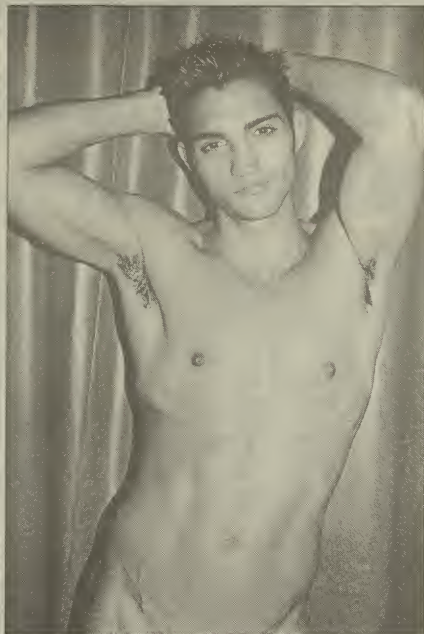
**Hot Daddy, Hard Body, 65**  
With highbrow tastes, leftist politics and a big cock seeks approx. duplicate of self but any cute clever guy might do. Try it. ☎ 72114

**Sexual Healing For Bottom Boy**  
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**\*Brown Sugar\***  
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**Something Sweet To Share & Suck**  
Early 50's bi WM cut 7"- wife doesn't suck. I need sucking and servicing by gentle tender 20-something daddy-boys- possible cuddling and kissing and reciprocation in the Castro. ☎ 72222

**Looking Now For Hot Bottom Fuck**  
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**"Like Strokin To Bareback Videos"**  
Into playing safely but fantasize about barebacking? Into barebacking videos? Me: masculine GWM, 40y/o, 5'11", 165#, salt/pepper, mod hairy, HIV-, seeks similar dude for stroking at my place. ☎ 72228

**\*Hot Blond GWM, 21.\***  
And older friend seek open minded, horny guys interested in small group sex sessions on a bi-monthly basis. All races welcome. Must be 18-30 and fit! ☎ 72229

**48 Year Old, Hung Black Stud**  
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**Master Sought**  
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**Anyone Out There Into Sheer Socks?**  
Attractive Latino 35, 5'11", blk hair, brown eyes, uncut, N/S, M/D, size 12 shoe, would like to meet Latinos or Whites into same fetish under 40. Non smokers only. ☎ 72232

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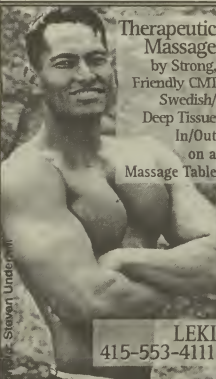
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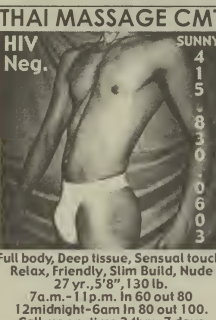
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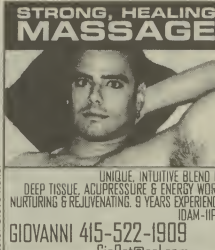
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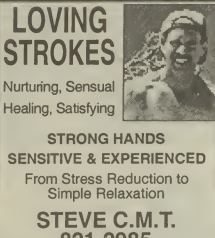
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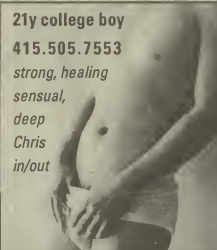
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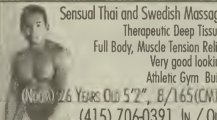
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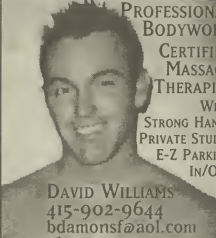
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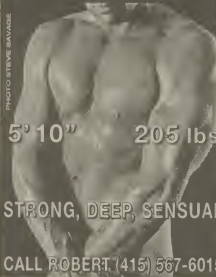
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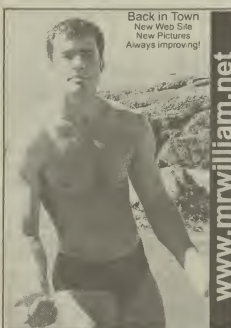
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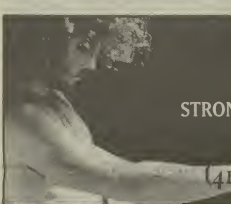
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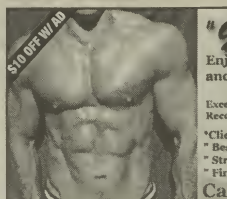
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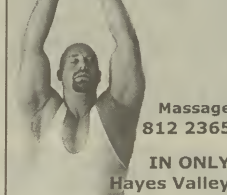
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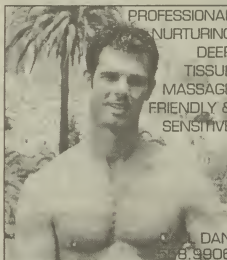
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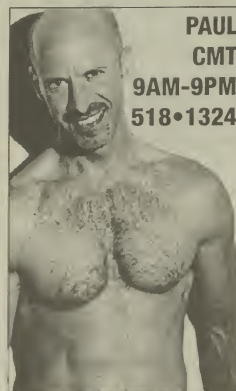
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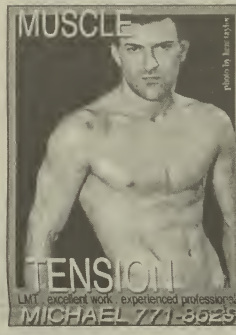


PAUL

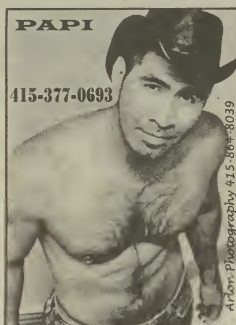
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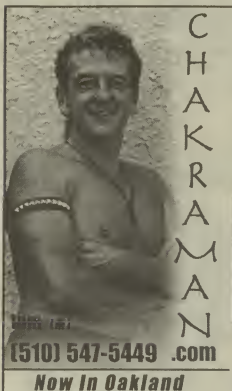
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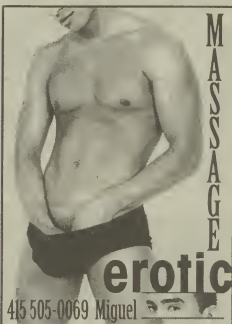
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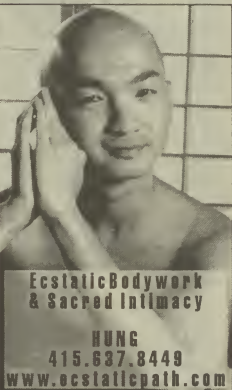
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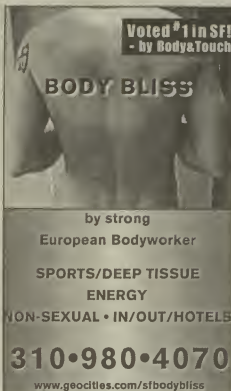
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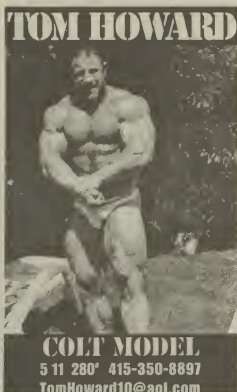


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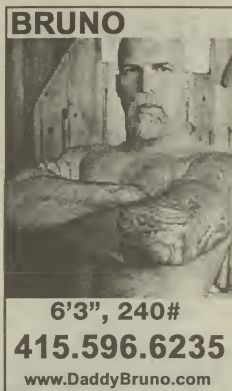
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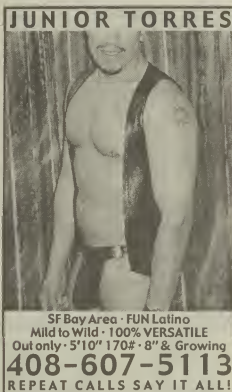
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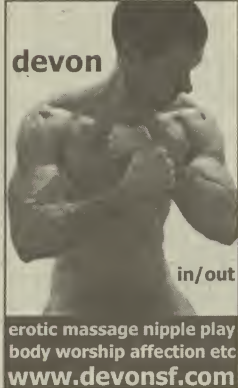
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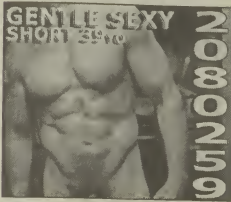
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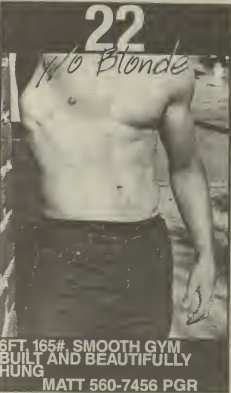
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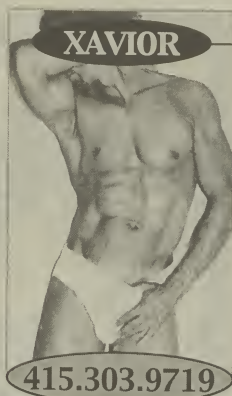
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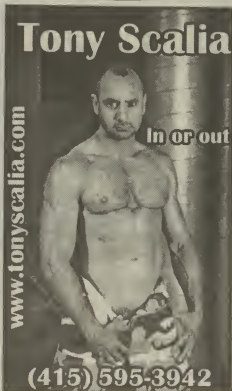
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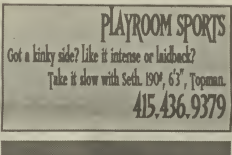


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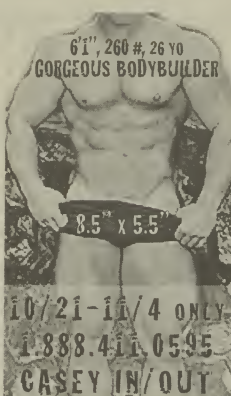
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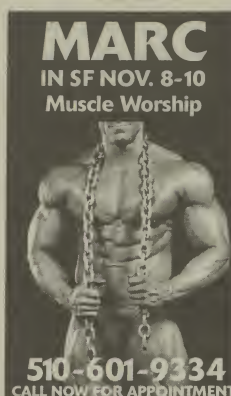
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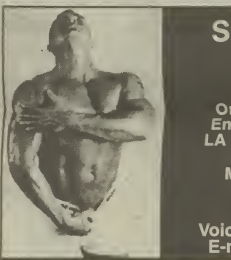
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